The Middlebury Campus

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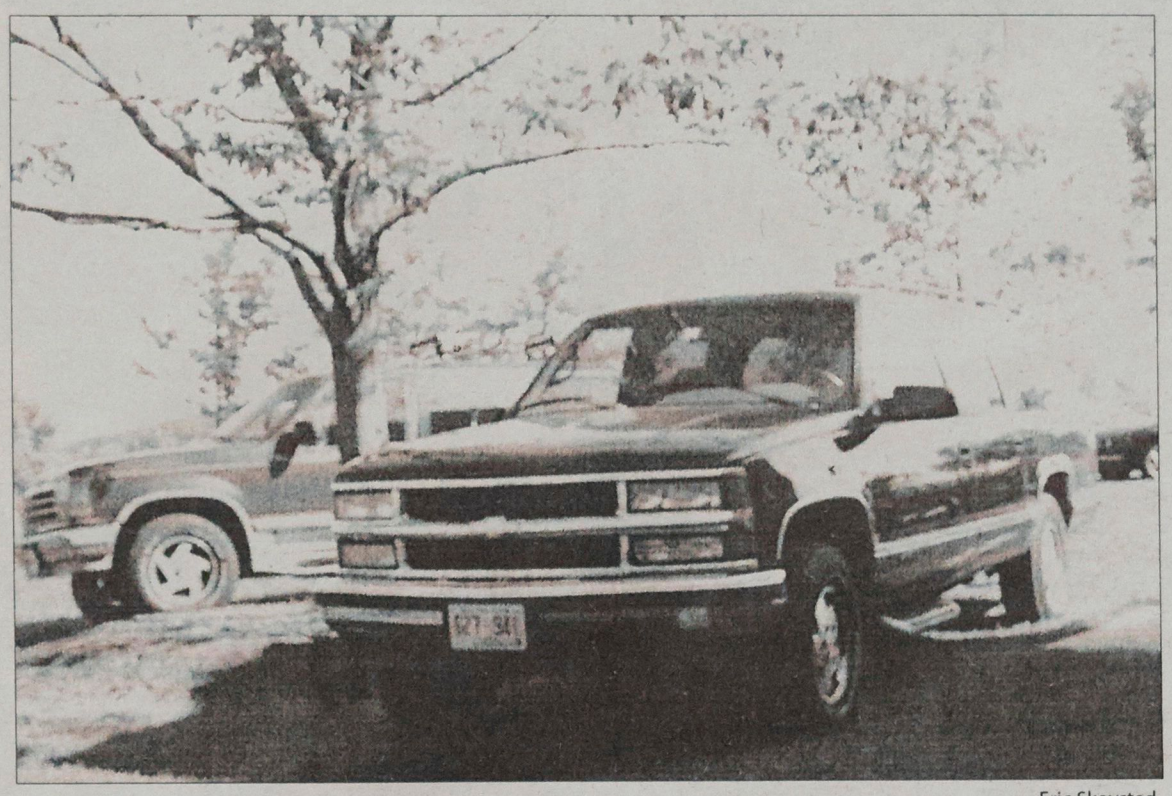

Eric Skovsted

The parking crunch on campus this year has forced students to find other creative places to leave thier vehicles. One of the more interesting choices is shown here beneath a shade tree on the lawn in front of New Dorms.

Parking crunch fuels anger among students

By Lindsay Frost
News Editor

The entire Middlebury College community is currently experiencing the effects of a parking crunch this year after the suspension of a proposed expansion of the Ridgeline Woods parking lot that would replace spaces lost by the closing of A Lot due to the Ross Commons expansion project. Although the majority of spaces have been replaced through short-term solutions, the Parking Committee will continue to evaluate the situation and work to develop a long-term solution to the parking problem and general transportation issues on campus.

The expansion of the Ridgeline lot was suspended on April 4, 2000 after the College learned that the site for the proposed lot was located on a class three seasonal wetland. Part of this wetland had also unknowingly been filled in during the construction of the Ridgeline Woods social houses.

According to Tom McGinn, project manager of facilities planning, construction projects in the state of Vermont must comply with Act 250, which outlines guidelines concerning the larger regional impact of any environmental project. One of nine criteria that projects must fulfill is not to encroach on or affect any nearby wetlands.

When the College began planning the Ridgeline social house project in 1996, the Johnson Company, an environmental engineering firm, was called to visit and inspect the area. The firm informed the College that the area was near a class three seasonal wetland and that in order to comply with Act 250, a silt fence would have to be constructed to protect the wetland. However, according to McGinn, the silt fence was never constructed.

According to McGinn and Director of Environmental Affairs and Environmental Studies Lecturer Nan Jenks-Jay, the wetland serves as a seasonal habitat for amphibians and a traveling corri-

see College, page 6)

Karatash files suit against college over dismissal

By Bob Wainwright
News Editor

A lawsuit filed in early May by Abdullah Karatash against the President and Fellows of Middlebury College is currently pending in the State Superior Court. Both parties plan to meet October 4 for a status conference.

Karatash alleges that he was unfairly suspended for his involvement in a dispute with Amine Bouchentouf, '03, and is suing for a withdrawal of his two-semester suspension as well as damages.

According to an article in the May 15 Addison Independent, Officer George Merkel, the Middlebury policeman who responded to the fight on April 9 said that the two men were fighting over a girlfriend. The fight was dismissed by the Addison County state's attorney, but Middlebury's Community Judicial Board did not turn out the same verdict.

Karatash was found responsible for the fight by the Board and was suspended for the remainder of the spring term and the following fall. A decision was made later by the College to allow Karatash the opportunity to take his exams apart from his classmates, allowing him to complete his junior year.

According to records held by the State Superior Court, the Plaintiff Karatash was notified by Robert Schine, Dean of the Faculty, of the decision made by the Community Judicial Board to dismiss him on May 1. On May 3, Karatash filed suit against the college. More than a week later, on May 15 and 16, Karatash's lawyer Robert Ogden filed subpoenas to 13 Middlebury students, including Bouchentouf. Many of the students could not be reached by the time of publication. However, one of them, sophomore Ben Wessler commented that, although he was notified by Ogden of his deposition, he did not have time to pick it up from Security before summer break and has not heard of the case since. Wessler also said that the only thing that he believed connected him to the suit was the fact that he had lived on

(see Lawsuit, page 5)

Rankings remain controversial indicator of College's identity

By Tim McCahill
Assistant News Editor

Middlebury College was ranked sixth among fifty of the nation's top liberal arts schools in an annual survey conducted by the magazine U.S. News and World Report. Survey results were published in the magazine edition of U.S. News on September 11. This year's ranking represents a slight drop in position for the College, which placed fifth in 1999's survey of colleges for the 2000 academic year.

U.S. News ranks American colleges first by categorizing them according to geography and type, then by using a weighted score based on 16 different tested standards of 'academic excellence.' These standards are then grouped into seven other categories, including such characteristics as academic reputation, student reputation, student selectivity and alumni giving.

NEWS analysis

Living with the methodology

Although the U.S. News rankings are generally recognized as being the most succinct and definitive method of rating the nation's universities, the numbers have come under some criticism from college administrators – including those at Middlebury.

Michael Schoenfeld, dean of enrollment planning in the admissions office, likens the U.S. News ratings simultaneously to a "blunt instrument" and a "scalpel" - how they are defined depends greatly on by whom they are consumed. Schoenfeld separates these 'consumers' into three distinct categories: college administrators, U.S. News buyers that may have prospective students, and prospective students themselves. All three "start on different levels as to what the College looks like. The danger comes when they don't know the details like fiscal resources and alumni loyalty."

The danger, Schoenfeld maintains, stems largely from the methodology employed by U.S. News. By far the most controversial is the category for a college's 'academic reputation,' a quality decided through surveys sent to three top administrators in the some 3,500 universities U.S. News rates. The 'academic reputation' quotient represents a quarter of a college's weighted score. Qualities like a school's record

(see Ranking, page 7)

Blazing a trail

Eric Skovsted

Carefully placing their feet, *Chris Fraser '04 and Matt Clark '04 descend a section of Vermont's Long Trail on their MOO trip.*

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Town of Middlebury modified College's parking expansion plans.
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First-year orientation 2000
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Football kickoff anticipated with hopes of NESCAC domination.
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College supports childcare for faculty, staff, town

By Erin Branch
Staff Writer

Last May Middlebury College announced plans to make significant financial contributions toward the creation of a new child care center that would help offset the huge shortage of available child care in Addison County.

The building, located at 228 College Street, is currently owned by the College. Part of this year's more than $600,000 contribution will go toward the conversion of this location into a suitable day care facility. Once complete, the new center will care for 16 children, and another nine slots will become available in home-based care facilities.

Over the next four years, the College will make gifts of more than $200,000 annually to the Vermont Community Foundation and the Addison County United Way to help maintain the center.

The initiative was conceived in response to the complaints of inadequate childcare resources raised by the Faculty Council. According to Pamela Smith, childcare resources development specialist for Addison County, "less than 50 percent of the child care needs are being met in this county." Of the 1,200 children under 2 in the county, only 208 can currently be accommodated in regulated settings.

Both current and prospective faculty and staff members discussed the child care shortage with Provost Ronald Liebowitz, President John McCardell, the Dean of Faculty, and the director of Mary Johnson, a child care center in Middlebury. With the help of Middlebury students, psychology professor Susan Campbell organized a survey to determine the need for child care among College employees.

The survey revealed a definite shortage of available childcare options, as well as preferences (mostly among faculty) for a center-based program, and preferences (mostly among staff) for home-based child care.

"As we discovered, this is not only a college problem," McCardell said. "But at the same time, we recognized that as the largest employer in the area...we ought to step forward and develop [with local providers] a model that could be both replicable and expandable."

Middlebury College, Bristol Family Center, the Otter Creek Childcare Center and the Mary Johnson Children's Center developed a plan whereby a consortium of child care providers in the community will administer and oversee the new center.

According to Provost Liebowitz, the President was "very adamant that this be a community, not a College solution." Therefore, the survey given to College employees was, with the help of the Childcare Fund of Vermont, administered to other local large employers. Similar results encouraged the formation of the new center.

For the future, says Liebowitz, the College has bigger visions. "We hope the College is setting an example for others."

McCardell plans to host other area CEOs and ask them to contribute to similar endeavors and help defray the cost of child care among their employees.

"I hope and expect that the College's role in this will not, for very long, be an example of how only one employer sees an obligation to the community to address this concern, but that rather over time, we'll be able to get other employers...[to] partner with us in some way," said McCardell.

Smith said, "The true cost of providing care for infants and toddlers in Addison County is about $335 per week. The gap between the true cost of care and what we charge comes from gifts, grants, and other funding that is used to underwrite our programs."

Child care at the new center will cost, at the minimum, $106 per week, but gifts such as the College's will be used to aid those families who quality for financial assistance.

A board will oversee the policy and direction of the new center, and two slots are reserved for Middlebury College faculty and/or staff. Liebowitz says the College representatives have yet to be determined.

Liebowitz emphasized that other childcare providers in the community depend on Middlebury College students as employees and volunteers.

"The women running the center are counting on Middlebury students to get involved," he said.

Interested students should contact Ilana at Mary Johnson at 388-2853.

Sixteen of the newly available slots will be reserved for the children of College employees, and the remaining nine will be awarded by lottery to community families. Liebowitz said that "most [College employees] are extremely satisfied with the care they have, and will stay with their current provider." Some, however, like the convenience of the new center or plan on having more children, and so may take advantage of the new facility.

Bristol Family Center Director Kathi Apgar praised the initiative. "What we're able to do is meet a critical demand in this community...by teaming up with yet one more nonprofit agency in way really collaborative way that sets a tone for businesses...to step up and meet. If nonprofits can do this together, then for-profits should certainly be able to match our effort."

Construction at the new center is somewhat behind schedule, but a temporary site is currently in operation on Happy Valley Road. The scheduled opening date of the College Street Child Center is November 10, 2000.

Eric Skovsted

A backhoe works on the pavement outside of the building that will become a daycare center on College Street. Middlebury College bought the building and has been renovating the site since the beginning of the summer.

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College mourns loss of former student athlete

By Nicole Miller
Editor-in-Chief

John Hart IV, a former Middlebury student who withdrew from the College at the end of the spring semester 1999, lost his battle with depression and died at the end of June.

Hart had entered with the class of 2001 and arrived at Middlebury in the fall of 1997. While at the College he played center on the basketball team for two seasons. The team's coach, Jeffrey Brown called him a player with "the potential to be a pretty solid basketball player."

"John really seemed to be the happy-go-lucky kind of guy," Brown said. "He always liked to laugh."

After leaving Middlebury, Hart spent June through November 1999 interning at the National Outdoor Leadership School (NOLS) in Idaho. He then returned to him home in Pittsburgh, Pa. where he attended classes at Carnegie Mellon University with the intent of returning to Middlebury in the fall of 2000.

Hart's mother, Janice Hart described him as focused and on a steady track. He was studying political science, and according to his mother, was considering a job in teaching.

"He was very close to us," she said. "He would go golfing with his dad every week."

A memorial service was held in Pittsburgh. According to Janice Hart, the ceremony was attending by over 500 friends and relatives.

"John had an amazing amount of friends," she said.

Janice Hart, who has been piecing together the pieces of Hart's time at Middlebury said that she has had correspondence with his friends at Middlebury.

Brown said that the basketball team hopes to find a way to celebrate Hart's life at the College. They plan to discuss possibilities during their first team meeting.

Laurie Jordan, the College Chaplain, said that although she did not know Hart while he attended Middlebury, that she offered her services to coordinate a possible memorial service on campus.

Restructuring of student activities streamlines organization

By Jon White
Staff Writer

Middlebury College's Office of Student Activities and the Career Services Office (CSO) underwent notable administrative changes in August prior to the start of the new academic year.

The Office of Student Activities has been renamed the Center for Campus Activities and Leadership. Two of the responsibilities of the old Office of Student Activities - coordination of student service initiatives, and student employment - are now under the jurisdiction of the Career Services Office.

As part of this restructuring, Tiffany Sargent, the former director of student activities, now heads up the service learning branch of the CSO as the director of service learning and student employment. Doug Adams has assumed the position as the director of the Center for Campus Activities and Leadership.

The impetus for these changes occurred last year when Dean of Student Affairs Ann Hanson approached department heads within the Student Affairs division to determine which programs overseen by that division should remain centralized and which programs should fall under the commons domain.

Out of this re-evaluation, the department heads decided that the student employment and volunteer services headed by the Division of Student Affairs should remain centralized with the Office of Career Services as the new overseer of these two programs.

According to Sargent, the CSO was the most obvious choice of umbrella for these two areas because the CSO promotes "real-world" experience and learning. Moreover, Sargent said in regards to relocating student employment that it was "logical to use jobs on campus as the first step to exploration of jobs off-campus."

The new leadership of the CSO under Jaye Roseborough complements the enhancement of the CSO's duties to include service learning. Roseborough, hired in January as the Director of Career Services, comes to Middlebury after having worked at the Center for Work and Service at Wellesley College in Massachusetts. At Wellesley's center, career guidance and service learning are combined; thus Roseborough brings experience in the coordination of such programs.

Sargent said she is enthusiastic about the incorporation of service learning into the CSO. She noted that until now, service learning was not an organized part of the college's "teaching pedagogy." She said that one of the tenets of President John McCardell's vision statement released in 1994 was for the college to encourage "real world" experiences among students to bolster the liberal arts education Middlebury College offers. "Integrating service learning into the greater college curriculum directly translates to exposure to real world situations," Sargent said.

Now that the CSO has been reorganized, Sargent said she plans to bring service learning and student employment into a finer focus over the course of the new academic year. Accordingly, she said she hopes to expand the current Web site, set up a database of service opportunities available to students, and work with the commons to promote commons-based service learning seminars. The Office of Service Learning and Student Employment's website is available at http://www.middlebury.edu/~slse.

Sargent also said that the new Office of Service Learning and Student Employment has posted job listings on the college's web page this fall in addition to those already posted in McCullough. Charlene Bergland, the student employment coordinator and service learning assistant and her staff in the Office of Service Learning and Student Employment were instrumental in bringing about this Internet posting.

The emergence of an organized service learning program accompanies President McCardell's joint effort in establishing a Vermont Campus Compact with Judith Ramaley, President of the University of Vermont. With the Vermont Campus Compact, McCardell and Ramaley hope to the promote service among institutions of higher learning in Vermont. Their vision calls for the promotion of community service within the campus community, further emphasis on service learning, and it states that colleges should be active and engaged citizens of the surrounding community and county.

At the new Center for Campus Activities and Leadership (C-CAL) carved out of the old Student Activities Office, Director Doug Adams said that with the relocation of volunteer service and student employment to the CSO the new center will be able to place a greater focus on student organizations and student leadership.

The essential functions of the center remain the same as the old student activities office. These functions range from advising the over 100 student organizations and clubs to providing technical support for bands playing at McCullough and to organizing January term workshops or promoting avenues of leadership on campus. The only minor adjustments Adams mentioned in the duties of the center include the process of making space reservations and party registration. Parties now must be registered through the commons or the interhouse council advisor for social houses.

Individuals can now make space/room reservations directly through the commons coordinator while student organizations must go through the Center for Campus Activities and Leadership.

Adams said that the changes that have occurred in relation to student activities, student employment, and service learning "increase the level of fluidity" among college divisions. As for the re-naming of the student activities office to the Center for Campus Activities and Leadership, Adams said that ideally the name change should make students more aware of the functional changes that have occurred over the summer in the area of student activities.

Adams also said that the new name evidences the Center's enhanced focus on student organizations and the promotion of leadership.

First-years find themselves living with upperclassmen

By Julianne Frisbie
Opinions Editor

Eighteen first-years arrived on campus two weeks ago and found themselves placed on halls in upperclassman dorms alongside other upperclassmen. Twelve first-years are living on the fourth floor of Hepburn and the sixth floor of Hadley houses six more.

According to Residential Systems Coordinator Hikaru Kozuma, placing first-years in upperclassman dorms has been a common solution for increasing enrollment in the past. "We have had entire halls in Gifford filled with freshmen in past years," he said. "This is certainly not the first time we have done this, and probably not the last."

Kozuma said that the first-years living in upperclassman dorms would still have a connection with their class through their connection with their commons. The students in Hepburn are a part of Brainerd Commons and the Hadley contingent belong to Ross Commons.

"Ross and Brainerd Commons are able to help the freshmen living in upperclassmen dorms feel connected to their class, even though they cannot be with them physically," said Kozuma.

Ben Gore '04, who lives on the fourth floor of Hepburn this fall, said he feels that his housing placement has been a positive experience so far. "One consequence of living in Hepburn is that the freshmen on our hall have really bonded," he said." I don't care for freshman dorms myself, they're too noisy."

Stuart Brown '04, a Hadley resident, said, "I think a lot of freshmen are wild because it is their first time away from home, but here all of the upperclassmen on my hall have already been through that, so it is nice and calm. Everyone on my hall has been a big help."

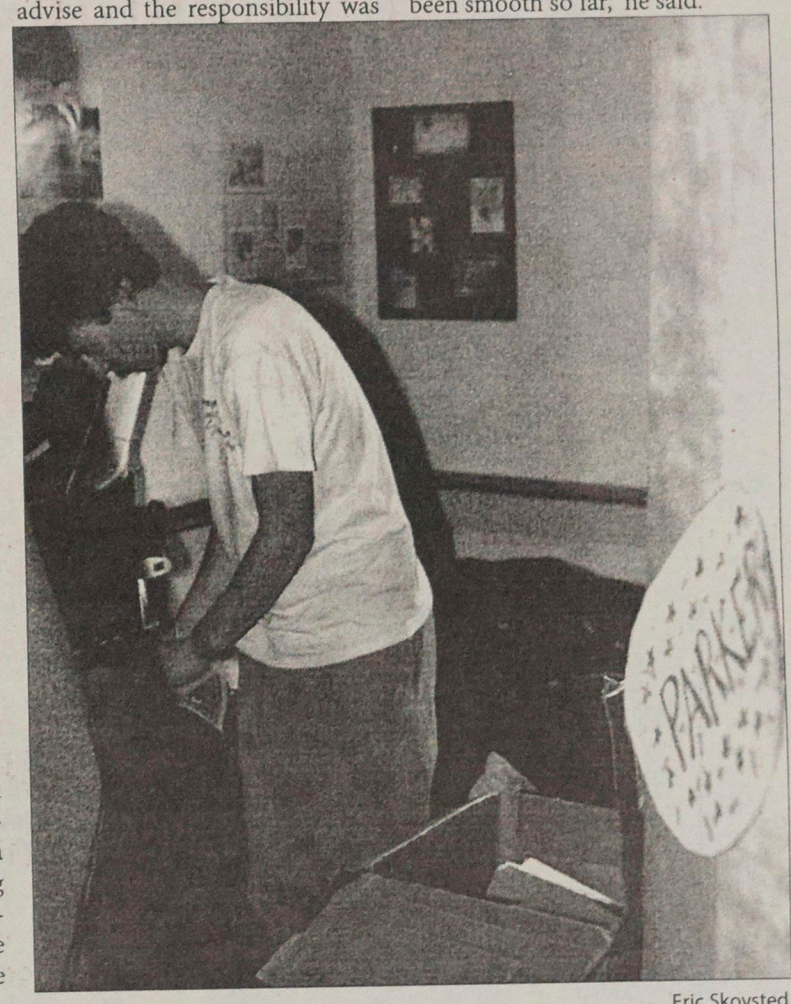
Last year was the first time in over four years that first-years were not placed in upperclassmen housing, mainly due to the reassignment of some first-years in Battell, which is in Cook Commons, to Wonnacott Commons. With the expansion of the commons system, commons coordinators designated a section of Battell to be assigned to Wonnacott Commons, making the number of freshmen in each commons more manageable.

Wonnacott Commons had previously housed fewer than 50 first-years in Gifford, leaving first-years isolated from other students their age. With part of the Battell population belonging to Wonnacott, Cook Commons had fewer first-years to advise and the responsibility was more evenly dispersed throughout the commons leaders.

February first-years are usually housed in upperclassmen dorms, usually taking rooms vacated by juniors studying abroad and graduating Feb seniors. Caitlin Vaughn '03.5, who lived on the fourth floor of Gifford last year in a two-room double, said "I didn't mind living in Gifford. The upperclassmen on my hall were very nice and welcoming, plus I had a bigger room than most freshmen."

Since housing first-years in upperclassman dorms is not an uncommon practice for the College, Kozuma, who just started work as residential coordinator this year, said he was optimistic about the recent housing arrangement.

"The adjustment this fall has been smooth so far," he said.



Eric Skovsted

Ben Brower '04 from Lopez Island, WA moves into his room in Hepburn. This year there are 12 first-years living on the fourth floor of Hepburn.

Ebner leaves stable Commons behind

By Lindsay Frost
News Editor

Dean of Commons Kathy Ebner left Middlebury in early September after eight years of service to the College. She has taken a position as vice president of development at Kaiser and Associates, a management consulting firm in Washington D.C.

Ebner said her responsibilities at Kaiser and Associates, where she worked from 1988 to 1992, will consist of helping with recruiting and retaining employees and managing change within the organization.

"It's hard to leave Middlebury," she said. "After eight years, I feel like I know how it works. The thing I'll miss most is probably working with the students," she said.

Ebner's departure has caused some restructuring of the Dean of Commons office, which is now called the commons administration office.

Ebner will not be replaced as dean of commons and her responsibilities will be divided between Dean of Student Affairs Ann Craig Hanson and Assistant Provost and Professor of American Literature and Civilization Tim Spears.

"Kathy Ebner was a wonderful colleague and leader on campus," said Hanson. "Her vision, hard work and dedication were a great gift to Middlebury College. We feel her absence already."

Spears said Ebner's previous duties mainly included working to develop the commons teams of deans, faculty heads and student co-chairs. Ebner worked to orient the three new commons deans that joined the College last year. According to both Ebner and Spears, the commons teams now operate with a certain amount of autonomy, therefore lessening Ebner's role as overseer.

"One of the positive things I see about leaving is that each commons is ready to function autonomously," Ebner said. "The central office will provide a different kind of leadership."

Spears said that he will continue to focus on working with the faculty heads and integrating them even more fully into the commons. He will also continue to work with facilities planning projects.

The commons administration office will now include Spears, Office Manager Karen White and Residential Systems Coordinator Karu Kozmua.

Francy Magee, who previously served as associate dean of commons, has moved to the dean of student affairs office as an associate dean of student affairs.

Ebner graduated from Middlebury with an English major in 1987 and remained on campus the following year as a residence hall advisor. She then took a position with Kaiser and Associates before returning to Middlebury in 1992 to serve as the director of residential life. She was named dean of commons in June 1999, although she had been working to develop the commons system during the two previous years.

"I have great confidence in the staff here at the College working in the commons," she said. "I think the best is yet to come."

Training room closes doors to non-varsity athletes

By Bob Wainwright
News Editor

On Wednesday, Middlebury College students received an e-mail from Health Center Administrative Director Kathleen Ready regarding, in part, the new policy of the sports medicine department. According to the new policy, the department will only provide services to students who are on the official roster of an intercollegiate team or the club teams of rugby and crew.

The new policy comes on the heels of a decision made by the staff resources council to not increase the number of athletic trainers at Middlebury, a request which was initially made two years ago by Head Athletic Trainer Dave Matthews. According to Matthews, "They [staff resources council] felt that our current mission had crept beyond our original mission, which was to take care of the athletes at Middlebury."

Matthews, who has worked at the college for twenty years and is currently in his eighth year as head athletic trainer, is one of three full-time athletic trainers at Middlebury. The others trainers are Kim Cunningham and Kelly Cray. The college also employs a part-time physical therapist, Sue Murphy.

The new policy, although disappointing for many non-intercollegiate athletes who have received free care from the athletic training staff in the past, is actually the norm among most schools in the NESCAC league. One clarification that should be made is that the distinction lies in roster versus non-roster, not in-season versus off-season. Athletes injured during their off-season will still be able to receive treatment by appointment between the hours of 10 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.

...last year, sports medicine gave 21,400 treatments with a staff of three full-time employees and one part-time employee.

According to Matthews, last year, sports medicine gave 21,400 treatments with a staff of three full-time employees and one part-time employee. That is exactly 11,400 more treatments than sports medicine gave in 1987, when the staff was increased to its current number of three and a half. Thirty-five percent of last year's treatments, or approximately 7,500, were given to students not on an intercollegiate team or rugby or crew.

"This [new policy] will give athletes more of an opportunity to come in and get quality service," said Matthews. "It gives us the time necessary to provide excellent care."

Andrew Corrigan

Beginning this September, the training room in the Chip Kenyon Arena will be only available for members of varsity athletic teams and not to any student as had been the previous policy.

Johns selects seven members of new SGA cabinet

By Chris Atwood
Staff Writer

During the summer, Ben Johns '01, president of the Student Government Association (SGA), selected seven students as members of the SGA presidential cabinet: Chief of Staff Phil Wood-Smith '01, Press Secretary Dauvin Peterson '01, Treasurer Brian Arcese'01, Director of Membership Zach Bourque '01, Director of Student Organizations Katherine Milgram '03, Director of Facilities Planning Marc Zelnick '00.5 and Director of Student Alumni Relations Ted Noon '01.5.

Wood-Smith, a Political Science major from Rye, N.Y., served on the Community Council and the Task Force for Judicial Governance during his sophomore year before his appointment to the SGA Cabinet.

"The difference this year is that we're going to focus on attainable goals," he said.

Arcese, a resident of Wilbarham, Mass. and an Economics major, brings the experience of having worked on the Constitution Committee and three years service on the Finance Committee.

Press Secretary Dauvin Peterson hails from Fargo, N.D., and is a senior double Chinese/Economics major.

Last semester, sophomore Katherine Milgram made the leap from first year student senator to director of student organizations, a position for which she reapplied and now holds. Milgram, a resident of Beaumont, Tex., is an International Politics and Economics major.

Bourque brings Student Council experience and work on the Publications Committee to his position as Director of Membership. A senior, Bourque is majoring in Economics with a minor in Spanish.

Zelnick, a senior Feb Political Science major from Little Rock, Ark., served as Forest representative last year.

A senior Feb, Noon served as a Feb representative during his first, sophomore, and junior year, and was involved with the Student Alumni Committee. Noon, who hails from Cohasset, Mass., is a double Economics/ History major.

Johns said that, in selecting the cabinet, he was "trying to find the people who would do the best job, and the best mix for that job, whether or not I knew them."

The SGA cabinet, according to Johns, meets weekly in order to discuss issues, initiatives, and any agenda items in addition to the weekly Sunday night SGA meeting.

Selections for Community Council members should be made by the middle of next week, according to Johns.

Student co-chair of Community Council Brian Elworthy accepted applications last spring for places on the council.

While you were gone...

By Lindsay Frost, Bob Wainwright and Tim McCahill
News Editors

College store receives facelift

The College Store was completely overhauled this summer and now offers a completely new presentation, according to Store Manager Bob Santry. The store received new wall-to-wall carpeting, slat walls to hang merchandise and new lighting and fixtures. The store also received all new Middlebury merchandise including clothing and gifts. All clothing is now displayed on the wall instead of being folded.

The store's book section also has a different look that was created by new trade book manager Keith Conkin, who joined the store staff last spring.

Byerly named acting dean of faculty

Associate Professor of English Alison Byerly, who previously served as associate dean of faculty, has been named acting dean of faculty since Dean of Faculty Robert Schine is on leave this year.

Jim Larrabee, a Chemistry professor, will serve as associate dean of faculty for the sciences and German Professor Michael Geisler will serve as associate dean of faculty for the humanities.

New look for Proctor, Chateau temporarily closed

Students returned to Proctor this fall to find all new tables, chairs, carpet and decor as part of a renovation project that started last spring. According to Manager of Dining Services Pete Napolitano, some sample tables and chairs were brought in last spring and students were polled for their opinion, especially on the round tables. Napolitano said students liked the round tables so dining services planned accordingly and ordered several. Roughly 16 seats were sacrificed to provide room for the round tables.

Some of the old tables and chairs were recycled for use in Lower Proctor and the rest were donated to a boys and girls camp in Vt. Lower Proctor was repainted this summer and is scheduled to be recarpeted over October break.

Proctor also has new baskets and crocks for teabags and condiments.

The Chateau dining room is currently closed until October 2 because of a staff shortage, said Napolitano. The Chateau staff is currently working at Bread Loaf but will return October 2. Until then, the language tables have been moved to the Cook dining hall, which also received new carpet, flooring and furniture.

Health Center has new medical director

Middlebury will now have a closer relationship between the athletic training center and the health center with the arrival of Dr. Mark Peluso, the new Medical Director of the Parton Health Center. He is available to see students between the hours of nine and three on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday. He will also be spending his afternoons in the training room to help with sports injuries, and will attend many home games.

Dr. Peluso is a 1988 graduate of Bowdoin College, and a 1996 graduate of Boston University Medical School. A tri-varsity athlete in high-school, Dr. Peluso continued to play lacrosse at Bowden, and followed that with a brief stint with the New England Blazers. He has had previous experience working with intercollegiate sports teams at San Jose St.

Faculty head changes in Ross, Cook Commons

CFA director Susan Stockton will be leaving her post as Ross Commons faculty head at the end of this week. Dean of Advising and Assistant Professor of American Literature and Civilization Karl Lindholm will take over her responsibilities for the remainder of the year until a replacement can be found. Professor Patricia Zupan of the Italian department was named faculty head of Cook Commons in July 2000, replacing track and field coach Martin Beatty.

Track team receives awards

Heather Longley '00, Kate Irvin '01, Kristie Laremy '01, Bryan Black '02 and Anna Hietkamp '00 received All-American awards for different track and field events at the end of last semester. All-Academic honors were handed out to the Middlebury track team by the U.S. Track Coaches Association. Kate Irvin and Emily Karot '03 received individual All-Academic awards for their achievements during the season.

KDR wins awards from national chapter

The College chapter of the Kappa Delta Rho fraternity was awarded three prizes from the National Association of KDR Fraternities for Best Recruiting, as well as Most Involved and Most Improved Fraternity.

In failing health, Tibetan political prisoner meets with mother

By Tim McCahill
Assistant News Editor

Ngawang Choephel, perhaps one of the most celebrated of Tibetan Chinese political detainees and a former Middlebury College student, was visited in early August by his mother, Sonam Dekyi, and his uncle, Tsering Wangdu, Amnesty International reported last month.

The visit took place at a medical facility in Chengdu, a city in China's southwestern Sichuan province.

Choephel, 34, is an ethnic Tibetan imprisoned by the Chinese authorities in 1995 for certain "espionage and counter-revolutionary activities."

An ethno-musicologist by training, Choephel grew up in India and returned to Tibet as an adult to make a documentary on Tibetan performing arts. Prior to his return he spent a year at Middlebury College working on a Fulbright scholarship.

John Barlowe, a Middlebury graduate who founded the campus chapter of Students for a Free Tibet in 1995, expressed great concern for Choephel's physical health and said that he "hopes everyone gets involved. The Chinese are starting to feel serious international pressure on this case."

Barlowe, who now works in Washington, D.C., is the director of the Sonam Dekyi Fund for Vermont, which provides financial support for Dekyi's daily life.

The fund has received the support of several Vermont legislators, most notably among those Senators James Jeffords, Bernie Sanders and Patrick Leahy.

Senator Jeffords was extremely influential in ensuring that Dekyi received official permission from the Chinese government to visit her son, threatening to openly oppose normalized trade relations with China were she refused entry into the country.

The Senate is expected to vote on granting Permanent Normalized Trade Relations (PNTR) to China later this week.

Amnesty International reported Choephel to be in declining health with at least four different serious ailments. Sonam Dekyi wrote in a statement posted on the International Campaign for Tibet's Internet site that Ngawang was "just skin and bones" and "did not seem strong mentally."

More recently, U.S. Ambassador to China James Prueher brought up Choephel's case during a visit to Tibet in late August. Barlowe said that he was "excited that [Prueher] did that. It signifies that this case is of great concern to U.S. government, and that's a good sign to me."

Amnesty International reported Choephel to be in declining health with at least four different serious ailments.

Sonam Dekyi wrote in a statement posted on the International Campaign for Tibet's Internet site that Ngawang was "just skin and bones" and "did not seem strong mentally." Choephel spent only two hour-long sessions with his mother and uncle; the relatives were separated by metal wiring and were restricted to speak of matters related to Chinese control in Tibet. The Chinese Communist Party views the region as historically belonging to China.

Barlowe of the Dekyi Fund encourages support for his organization through financial donations. These can be sent to the Sonam Dekyi Fund of Vermont, P.O. Box 691, Middlebury Vermont 05753.

Lawsuit remains pending in State Superior Court

(continued from page 1)

the same hall as Bouchentouf.

The suit has been at a standstill since Karatash's initial complaint except for a response filed by the College's lawyer, Karen McAndrew on June 6.

According to the article in the Addison Independent, before filing his lawsuit, Karatash first sent a press release to local newspapers claiming he had been suspended from Middlebury after "blowing the whistle" on a "reputed cocaine trafficker" with royal Arab ties. Later, in his "Preliminary List of Due Process Violations," Karatash made a similar complaint through his lawyer, writing "After the hearing, a Dean hugged and consoled Bouchentouf. This implies the College sympathized with him, even though he was a reported cocaine dealer."

Similar allegations were made on MiddTalk during the summer. While the College would not comment specifically upon personal matters involving individual students, Director of Public Affairs Phil Benoit did post one document, in which he wrote, "Charges aired in this forum that the College is involved in a cover-up of drug dealing on campus are not true."

Karatash's complaint also stated that "at a pre-hearing event, a certain Dean Hanson, who herself was the presiding official at the actual hearing, confided to the Advisor for Plaintiff, that she had in effect, concluded that Plaintiff was not the kind of person that should be enrolled at Middlebury College."

The college denied that statement in its response to the Plaintiff's complaint. While she would not comment specifically on the case, McAndrew did say in an interview with The Campus that "The College's responses have not changed since they were made."

As of now, Karatash is continuing to seek a retraction of his dismissal, in addition to an award for the damages inflicted upon him. The College would not comment specifically on the case.

However, Betsy Etchells, in a letter on behalf of President McCardell, wrote, "Indeed, we believe the College behaved properly, that we are well represented, and that our position will ultimately prevail."

Voter.com provides absentee voting

The 2000 Election

Bringing the campaigns closer to home

By Bob Wainwright
News Editor

Virtually everyone here at Middlebury will be eligible to vote November 7 as we elect the next President of the United States. However, many students might be confused as to what they need to do in order to either register to vote or obtain an absentee ballot. The answer is surprisingly simple: Voter.com. This site allows visitors to register and/or obtain an absentee ballot. The site also happens to be an excellent resource for all information pertaining to the upcoming elections.

Once you have logged on to the site, simply click on "Register to Vote," which may be found on the left-hand side under the subtitle "Elections." You may then either click on the Absentee Ballot Request or Voter Registration. Once you have made your selection, simply type in the required information. Make sure you know your Social Security Number, because you will need it.

The entire process should take no more than five minutes. Yet, for the many students who will request absentee ballots, the process will take a little longer. Once information has been given in full, you will either print out the request or have it sent to you here on campus. You must next send the request to your local elections office. The address will be given to you.

Once you are done with Voter.com, you will also receive an e-mail confirming your registration and once again reiterating what needs to be done to receive your absentee ballot in the mail.

Editor's Note:

This column is the first in a series of articles dealing with campaign and election issues that directly impact college students.

The Middlebury Campus

The Campus is looking to fill the following positions on its staff:

Features Editor: Responsible for the creation and assignment of novel, interesting and pertinent story ideas. If you do not consider yourself quite adept at squeezing creativity out of what will become the barren desert of your mind, this position is not for you. Simultaneously, this position offers an exciting level of freedom, which allows the editor to shape the section, as opposed to the section shaping the editor. Also responsible for layout of section.

Sports Editor: Assigns and edits all sports stories. Should be familiar with members and coaches of Middlebury athletic teams and in touch with non-varsity activities.Sports editors are responsible for laying out their section.

Copy Editor: Member of the team responsible for the elimination of all spelling, punctuation and typographical errors. Above-average spelling and grammar skills a must. Knowledge of Quark Xpress program a plus but not a requirement. Late hours are typical. Paid Position.

Online Editor: Helps to maintain and create an interactive Web Page for the newspaper. Should be familiar with html coding and have creative computer skills that are applicable to a journalistic site.

Writers: Positions available to write for all sections of the newspaper.

If you are interested please call Nicole Miller, editor-in-chief, at extention 5736 for more details.

College grapples with a serious parking dilemma

(continued from page 1)

dor for animals such as otters. The wetland, which actually only exists during certain times of the year, is also useful for flood control and drainage and water purification and filtering. These functions classify the wetland as class three seasonal as opposed to a class one, which have many more functions. The wetland also contributes seasonal flow to the larger wetland located across Route 125 north of Bicentennial Hall.

During the construction project, over 10,000 cubic yards of waste material, mainly dirt, was discarded in the wetland area directly west of the existing parking lot and on top of the site where the modular homes currently reside. After the completion of the project, some of the dirt was trucked out but the rest remained, filling in over an acre of the wetlands. According to McGinn, the construction workers at the time saw the wetland area as a hayfield and unknowingly filled it in.

When the College sought approval to bring in the modular homes in 1999, the Johnson Company was again called to campus to verify Act 250 compliance. The engineers marked a new wetland boundary, apparently not finding the discrepancy between the earlier boundary of 1996 and the new boundary after the fill-in, said McGinn. The project was then approved by the town and the state and again the discrepancy went unnoticed.

Uncovering the mistake

In the spring of 2000, the Ridgeline expansion project was approved by the town of Middlebury and was pending the approval by the state of Vermont. The College was notified by the civil engineering firm for the project that the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources had noticed the change in the boundary of the wetland. McGinn said the College examined all the plans of the site, noticed the discrepancy themselves, and immediately contacted the Act 250 commission and asked that the College's application for the project be put on hold.

"It's carelessness. I think that's what it comes down to," said McGinn. "It's not paying attention."

"We didn't know that the modular homes were in the wetlands," said Rebecca Brodigan, the director of institutional research and planning. "We wouldn't have put them there. We were shocked when we found out what had happened."

According to Brodigan and McGinn, the project is still in negotiation with the Agency of Natural Resources, the Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Army Corps of Engineers.

"There's still a real outside possibility that we could build a parking lot there," Brodigan said.

Brodigan, McGinn and Jenks-Jay said that the three agencies are currently reviewing the situation and will eventually make a recommendation for some sort of compensation or reconstruction plan.

"Everyone has expressed a desire to acknowledge the damage, the destruction and the violation, but then work towards a satisfactory mitigating plan," Jenks-Jay said.

McGinn said, "The college's position on this is that we will do whatever they determine is correct to be done."

Possible expansion at Center for the Arts

After suspending the Ridgeline expansion, the College proposed an expansion of the Center for the Arts (CFA) lot that would add over 200 spaces. The original plan, presented to the town planning commission on May 15, 2000, called for moving the Porter Field Road closer to the Chipman Park residential area and extending the existing lot. The plan was eventually scaled back to 149 spaces after the initial meeting with the Middlebury town planning committee.

This second proposal was then rejected by the town on June 10 mainly because of opposition by residents of the Chipman Park neighborhood who did not want the Porter Field Road moved closer to their property, said McGinn.

The town offered the College the option of adding the 149 spaces in the area near the CFA pond and patio and in the green area behind Meeker and Munford Houses. The town also asked that the College construct a heavily wooded earth berm between Porter Field Road and the Chipman Park neighborhood.

According to McGinn, the College chose not to build a parking lot in the area because the restrictions imposed by the town would have been too expensive and the lot would not have been aesthetically pleasing.

"You didn't have what would have been a very attractive parking lot when you were done," he said. "I don't think it was something that everyone would have been happy with."

Replacing spaces

According to McGinn, 210 spaces for students were lost with the closing of A Lot. In order to replace these lost spaces, 185 spaces have been designated for first-year parking in the field house lot near Kenyon Arena and Fletcher Field House.

Concerning faculty and staff parking, 31 spaces were lost due to construction in the faculty and staff lot by Adirondack and Pearsons. Twenty three faculty and staff spaces were added behind Hillcrest when those lots were repaved and striped for parking. The College has also leased 20 spaces from St. Mary's Catholic Church on College Street for weekday faculty and staff use.

Some lots have had spaces reassigned to different groups. The

"Within 10 student spaces we have the same parking we had last year," said McGinn. "Where were really going to be affected is event parking."

In order to replace the event parking lost by having first-years in the field house lot, Brodigan said the College is considering expanding the parking by Kenyon Arena.

"We've paid the price for our carelessness because now we have a parking crunch," said McGinn. "That's a direct result of our actions in the past. We won't make the same mistake again."

> **We've paid the price for our carelessness because now we have a parking crunch. That's a direct result of our actions in the past. We won't make the same mistake again.**
>
> **—Tom McGinn, project manager for facilities planning**

The current situation

Students returning to campus received a letter from the Dean of Student Affairs Ann Craig Hanson that said there would be a parking crunch in the fall. Hanson and the administration asked that students not bring their cars to help alleviate the problem.

Director of Public Safety Lisa Boudah said she was unable to provide the current number of cars registered on campus because they have not finished entering all the registration information into the database.

However, she said that 81 first-year cars had been registered as of last weekend and the end of orientation week. According to Boudah, this number is lower than the number of first-year cars registered at this time last year.

"We feel pretty good that the number of freshman cars was lower than last year at this time," she said.

Boudah said the number of faculty and staff cars registered was difficult to ascertain because faculty and staff cars are not re-registered every year. Faculty and staff last re-registered their cars three years ago, and Boudah said that she thought that faculty and staff would probably need to re-register their cars sometime this year.

According to Boudah, Campus Security is responding to the parking crunch by strictly enforcing parking policy. She said security will continue to tow and ticket cars that are parked illegally and will enforce the four ticket limit before parking privileges are revoked.

"If they don't try to park appropriately and they end up accumulating a large number of tickets, they will be considered a habitual offender and their parking privileges will be revoked," she said.

In the coming weeks, security will also be conducting an audit of the parking lots to count empty spots, ascertain who is parking where, examine the placement of lots and find key problems. Security will monitor the lots at several different times of the day in order to

"It's a fact that there are some areas where parking is not as convenient as other areas, but if [faculty, staff and students] were to look at other communities or colleges, parking is also not always convenient," she said. "If the students, faculty and staff see that the plan for the college is to become more of a pedestrian campus, [they will understand] that the parking will move farther away from buildings are become less convenient."

Looking to the future

The Parking Committee, formed last spring, will continue to discuss the parking problem and possible solutions.

According to Brodigan, the parking committee chair, the group will be looking mainly at incentives and disincentives for faculty, staff and students to drive on campus.

"Part of what we have to do is change people's attitudes about what is convenient parking," she said.

Amy Seif, environmental coordinator and Parking Committee member, said she had several ideas for incentives and disincentives. For faculty and staff, she mentioned an electronic carpooling board or ride matching program, subsidized van pools and guaranteed rides home as possibilities.

She also said a shuttle service, both around campus and the town and to nearby destinations such as airports or the Snow Bowl could be considered.

She also discussed the importance of better education and awareness about mass transit options available, including the Addison County Transit Resources free shuttle that travels around town, the Vermont Transit bus service and the Amtrak trains.

"What I'm hoping for is that the college looks at its parking situation as an overall transportation demand program," she said. "Not just 'do we have enough parking spaces' but 'do we have enough transit options for students, faculty and staff so they won't bring a car.'"

According to Brodigan, other issues that will be discussed include the necessity of loading and unloading zones and the possibility of getting a consultant to look at the College's internal circulation issues.

Brodigan said the committee will also be considering the question of restricting the number of cars on campus, specifically whether or not first year students should be allowed to have cars on campus.

The College's previous stance on first-year students having cars is that everyone on campus has an equal right to have a car, but Brodigan said the question could always be reconsidered.

Seif said she thinks restricting cars for first-years is "a great option."

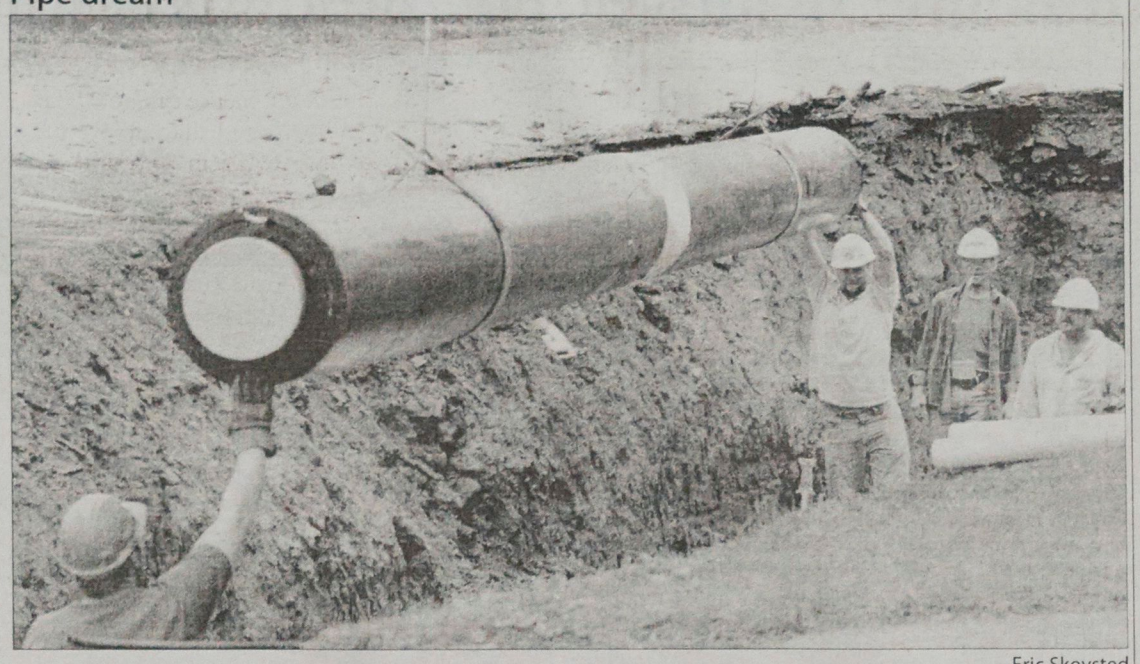
"Why have more responsibility?" she said. "Having a car is such a big responsibility, and one of the best things about college is that you don't have all the 'adult' responsibilities."

Craig Hine '02, the Community Council representative to the parking committee, said the committee was "trying to make an environmental decision and discourage the idea of driving all over the place." He also said that "when you enter into new rules, it's tough for kids that have been here to change."

Brodigan said that the College's master plan ultimately calls for an entirely pedestrian campus, so new parking lots that are created will be on the periphery of campus.

She said the parking committee, which consists of Brodigan, Seif, Professor of Chinese John Berninghausen, Linda Pitkin, George Whitney, Krista Soringo and students Hine and Zach Tofias '00.5, will continue to deal with the issue transportation on campus, particularly with the continuing construction that will affect the cam-

Pipe dream



Eric Skovsted

Displaying almost super human strength, *construction workers lower a steam pipe into the ground on the south west side of Adirondack house where construction has been an ongoing affair.*

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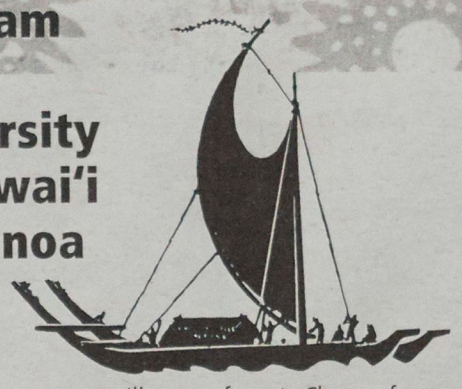

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Increase in ranking created backlash

(continued from page 1)

of excellence can only be partially measured: like all statistics, the truth lies in more than just the plain numbers. This is something writers at U.S. News who work to compile the survey might agree with; staffers Robert J. Morse and Samuel Flanigan warn readers of the ratings to "[research] the intangibles." Avoiding this danger remains a fixture of the U.S. News rankings, and the magazine does integrate feedback from college administrators into improving its rating methodology.

The method and Middlebury

But what relevance should the numbers have for Middlebury? Phil Benoit, head of the College's Public Affairs department, said in an interview that he believed the ratings to be largely "symbolic. They provide the recognition of being in the top ten, and show us how we perceive and present ourselves." Relating an anecdote of anxious parents sometimes arriving at the admissions office with a copy of the ratings in hand, Dean Schoenfeld reiterated that the numbers by no means dictate College admissions or public relations policy. "We don't build [Bicentennial Hall] to go up the U.S. News rankings," Schoenfeld said. Rather, the numbers provide College administrators with an idea of Middlebury's position relative to its peers and open up areas of potential improvement. Schoenfeld asserted that the principal function of the College is to provide students and faculty a certain quality of life that results in a "greater experience."

A quick look at Middlebury's ascendancy through the rankings does indicate a greater awareness towards qualities like academic quality and student retention. In 1987, Middlebury was ranked 17 out of 50 national liberal arts colleges; in 1995, it rose to number 11 and last year was ranked 5 among its peers.

'Malls of Ivy'?

This dramatic increase in position has prompted some backlash, however. In December 1999, Middlebury was criticized as representing a new brand of 'liberal lite' higher education. The critique, which aired on the National Public Radio program All Things Considered", berated Middlebury as a college "product" at its most "opulent." Benoit and Schoenfeld both maintain this kind of criticism as unfounded. "There's no downside to rising in the ranks," Benoit mentions. "[The 'liberal lite' debate] is just a blip on the screen." Concurs Schoenfeld, "the [NPR journalist] never visited campus" but rather based his critique on negative press for Middlebury written up in a Vermont newspaper.

But criticisms like the kind aired on NPR underscore the deeper notions of how Middlebury is perceived – and how its population perceives itself. Jokes of Middlebury's 'upper crust' style of room and board are everyday facets of life on campus; phrases such as 'enjoying the country club atmosphere' of the College are familiar with many students. These kinds of jovial commentary, however, point to a trend that has become the standard across America's first tier schools. Colleges in recent times have become a kind of commodity, institutions that rely on aggressive marketing and promotion to remain competitive among students that grow more savvy by the year.

But exactly how aggressive should this marketing be? "If you're good, you don't need to trumpet your [U.S. News] rankings," maintained Benoit.

After the results were announced earlier this month – and before the College altered the design of its Internet page - Middlebury prominently posted a press release describing its general position in the U.S. News ratings on the lower right hand corner of its introductory page on the Web site. A quick and informal survey of the other top ten liberal arts college Web sites rated by U.S. News – Amherst, Swarthmore, Williams, Wellseley, Pomona, Bowdoin, Carleton, Haveford and Wesleyan – found news of the rankings either not posted or placed in sections of the sites other than the opening page.

Although the wording of the press release issued by the College was by no means self-congratulatory, and the method of investigating other colleges' Internet sites far from perfect, it does indicate a small discrepancy between statements like those of Benoit and the reality of how Middlebury presents itself on its Internet address.

The dichotomy is simple: although College administrators may decry the methodology used by U.S. News, the ratings remain an important fixture in the lives of prospective students and the only consistently available benchmark for Middlebury to compare its to its peers.

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Town of Middlebury modifies College's parking expansion plans

By Ashley Elpern
Local News Editor

The Middlebury Town Planning Commission and local citizens are trying to reach a compromise with Middlebury College on the expansion of the College's parking lots.

Students returning to the College last week noticed a lack of convenient parking spaces on campus with the loss of A-Lot to construction. The failed expansions of the Ridgeline parking lot and the Center for the Arts (CFA) parking lot further diminished the total amount of parking spaces on campus. The Town of Middlebury figures into this dilemma, as it wants to maintain peaceful neighborhoods and Town safety.

> All that the Town asks for is a safe, pedestrian friendly area and that parking lots not be ruinous to the residential life of the community.
> —Fred Dunnington, town planner

Middlebury Planning Commissioner John Tenny voiced the feeling of the Town's citizens when he said that "as Middlebury College expands and intensifies its master plan, it puts pressure on its neighbors and increases traffic issues in the downtown area."

Town Planner Fred Dunnington said that the Town is working with the College to find a solution to the parking crunch. Originally, the expansion of the Ridgeline parking lot and the removal of A-Lot were approved by the Planning Committee. In late spring, it became apparent that the site was a wetland protected by state and federal conservation laws and plans to expand came to a halt.

"The Town proposed replacing the wetlands, which serve as water retention basins, with man-made storm water retention basins to offset the lost value of the wetlands," said Dunnington. He stated that the Town and College are negotiating with state and federal officials for approval of this plan.

To make up for the loss of A-Lot, the College had hoped to expand the CFA lot by 149 parking spaces. This would have pushed the existing lot past the road leading to Porter Hospital onto the grassy area across from the soccer fields.

"The citizens living next to Middlebury College, especially in the Chipman Park area behind the CFA feel pressured and threatened by the College's expansion" said Tenny. Barbara Tomb, a Chipman Park resident, organized the opposition to the expansion of the CFA lot.

"In early May, the College proposed to expand the CFA lot so that it would be 100 feet from our backyards, even 88 feet in some areas," said Tomb. Tomb and her neighbors walked over the site and realized that having a parking lot so close to their homes would not be conducive to peaceful living.

When the College notified the Chipman Park residents of the plan, officials noted that the CFA lot was usually filled at 40 percent capacity, but due to the loss of A-Lot, it would likely become full quickly. "The lighting around the parking lot, the traffic and the noise of car alarms and tow trucks that we already deal with would become worse with the addition of the 149 spots that the plan called for," said Tomb.

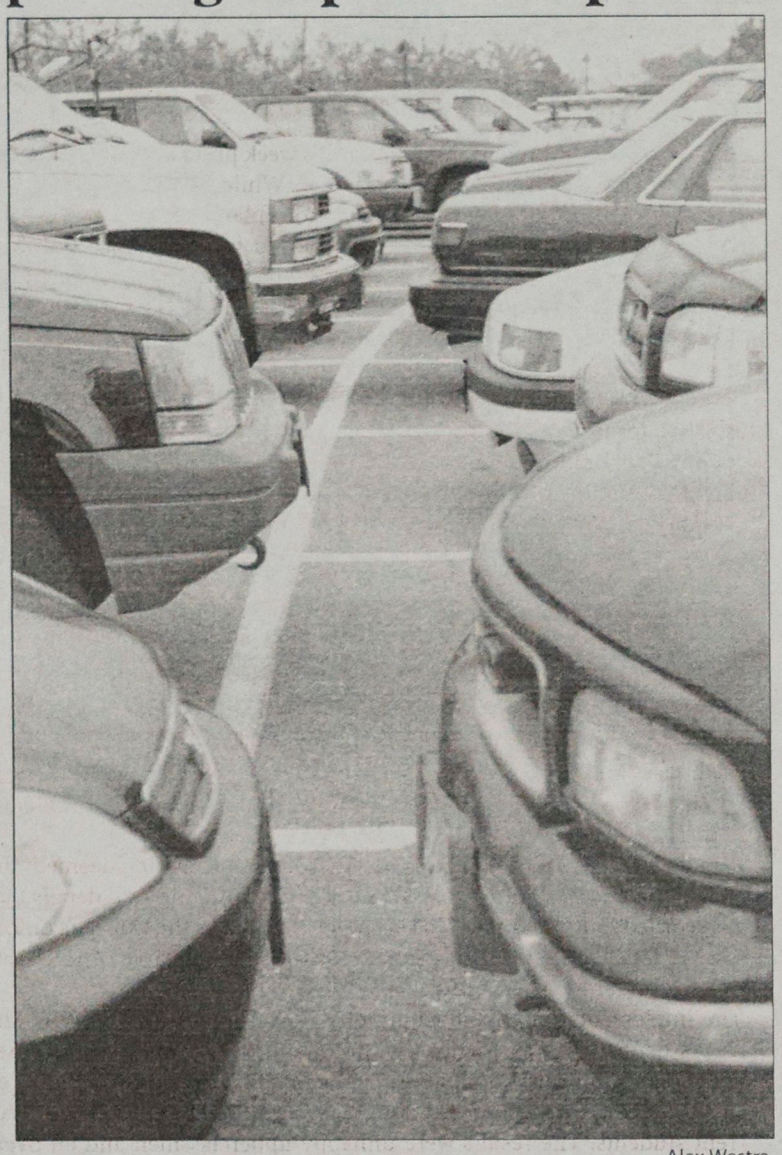
Tomb and her neighbors organized a petition of grievance that addressed the intrusion into their neighborhood and sent it to the Town Planning Board. The Planning Board worked out a compromise to allow the College to expand by 100 spots, providing that some of those spaces be created closer to the College's athletic complex and the Center for the Arts rather than Chipman Park. "This seemed like an honest effort at the time to alleviate the parking crunch," said Tenny.

Tomb felt that the decision was an adequate compromise. "I believe that the Town listened to both sides and I hope that the College didn't think we were being unreasonable. If built, the lot will be there forever and will always infringe on our neighborhood."

The Planning Board would like to see smaller lots installed around the College's campus that will have less impact on the surrounding neighborhoods.

"A lot of little parking improvements would go a long way," said Dunnington. He noted the proposed construction of a parking lot behind Kenyon Arena as a strong idea, but also suggested extending parking on College Street. This would calm traffic and make it harder for cars to speed through the busy pedestrian area. Expanding the Coffrin and Freeman parking lots, as well as the Harris Farm House lot, was also brought up by the Commission.

"These are not simple issues, and the College is doing as good as a job as possible while trying to maintain its plan for the future," said Dunnington. "All that the Town asks for is a safe, pedestrian friendly area and that parking lots not be ruinous to the residential life of the community."



Alex Westra

With the loss of A-Lot, the Center for the Arts parking area, normally 40 percent full, is now jammed bumper-to-bumper with students' cars.

STATE

By Ashley Elpern
Local News Editor

Governor Dean unveils Vermont's quarter

The design of theVermont quarter, featuring maple syrup and Camel's Hump, was displayed on September 12 by Governor Howard Dean. Dean chose the scene of a man checking sap buckets on several maple trees with Camel's Hump in the background. Snowflakes hover over the mountain formation."I think it's going to be pretty and really represent Vermont well," said Dean. Hundreds of Vermonters from all over the state, most of whom favored the sugaring scene, either spoke to Dean or participated in television polls to choose the design. The design will appear on 800 million quarters issued by the US Mint next July. It will include the state motto, "Freedom and Unity," and "1791," the year Vermont joined the United States,

Voter registration swells as debate over civil-union grows

The controversial debate over Vermont's civil union ruling is spurring voter registration. Many of the new registrations are occurring in small towns where the civil unions law — granting homosexual couples the benefits of marriage — has angered residents who have not been stirred by politics in the past, or where anti-civil union candidates are recruiting voters. "Some of it is interest in the presidential election, but a lot is civil unions," said Topsham Town Clerk Juanita Clafin. Topsham has seen its 615-name checklist grow over five percent in recent months, as have officials in Barre. Registrations in Derby, a small town on the Canadian border, have doubled. Republicans are expected to profit from the increased voter interest stemming from civil unions. Grafton Town Clerk Cynthia Gibbs has seen no impressive rise in voter registration and no agitation over civil unions, but in other communities, voter interest is overwhelming. "This is very unusual," Barre City Clerk Eugene Stratton said of the stack of registrations to be processed. "Whether these people will actually go to the polls and vote remains to be seen." State Republican Party Chairman Patrick Graham believes that voters are also concerned with increased taxes and protecting education, but sees the civil union struggle as integral. "The civil unions law is the straw that broke the camels back," Graham stated.

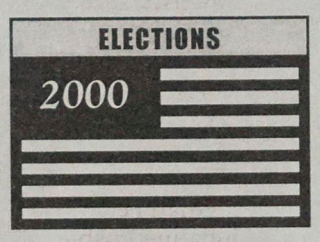
Sources: *The Rutland Herald* and *The Burlington Free Press*

Incumbents Dean and Jeffords sweep primaries

By Ashley Elpern
Local News Editor

The September 12 primary election attracted more attention than usual, as voters turned out to support or oppose the civil union law that grants gay and lesbian couples the same benefits as heterosexual married couples.

Ruth Dwyer defeated her Republican Party opponent William Meub with 58 percent of the vote. Incumbent Governor Howard Dean won the Democratic ticket without competition from Brian Pearl. Dean and Dwyer have a re-match of their 1998 general election, with the addition of Progressive Anthony Pollina's well organized third-party platform.



Meub's 42 percent of the Republican vote was a much stronger showing than expected. The Rutland lawyer was practically unknown to Vermont politics when he entered the race.

Meub's support grew due to Dwyer's controversial nature. She is connected to the anti-government "Take Back Vermont" movement as well as the opponents of the civil union law. Dwyer was strongest in rural Vermont and with conservative Catholics. Meub's following came from cities and affluent suburban areas.

Democratic candidate for Senate Ed Flanagan defeated Jan Backus by a narrow victory margin. He won the Democratic nomination for the U.S. Senate with 51 percent of the vote.

Flanagan now faces incumbent Republican Senator Jim Jeffords who soundly defeated Richard Hubbard. Jeffords is currently serving his second term as senator and is favored to win a third six-year term. Jeffords cruised to victory, but Flanagan and Backus divided victories across Vermont.

This is Flanagan's first bid for the U.S. Senate. He has served as Vermont's state auditor since 1992 and is the nation's first and only openly gay statewide elected official.

Vermont Primary Results

For Governor			For U.S. Senate		
Democrats			**Democrats**		
Dean	29,203	80%	Flanagan	16,107	51%
Pearl	4.037	12%	Backus	15,293	49%
Republicans			**Republicans**		
Dwyer	42,765	58%	Jeffords	55,544	79%
Meub	30,958	42%	Hubbard	14,683	21%

Editorial

Put it in park

Students arriving back at Middlebury this week probably noticed a large hole where 210 parking spaces used to be. While this discrepancy was expected by those who saw the Ross Commons plan after its unveiling last spring, students had assumed that there would be replacement parking available on the northwest side of campus by the time they returned in the fall. However, as students drove onto campus and hunted for a place to park, they quickly became aware that the College had failed to meet its goal.

So now, with the semester already underway and students battling to get those last late-night parking spaces at the Center for the Arts or Ridgeline Woods, the school is playing a game of catch-up, scrambling to resolve a problem they could have prevented.

By April 4, 2000, the College knew that the proposal to expand the Ridgeline Woods parking lot would be delayed when it learned the area was designated a class-three seasonal wetland. Nonetheless, the College went ahead with construction, removing A-Lot and neglecting to secure replacement parking.

In 1996, an environmental engineering firm had notified the College of the wetland and ordered it to build a protective silt fence to comply with state laws. However, during the ensuing construction of the Ridgeline social houses and the building of the modular homes last year, the College overlooked these regulations and even filled in portions of the wetlands with dirt.

Middlebury's current director of environmental affairs deemed the oversight the result of "carelessness" and a "lack of attention" to details that were recorded four years ago. This example illuminates the College's unfortunate tendency to overlook immediate consequences in favor of accelerating with grander long-term projects.

The implementation of the Commons Plan is another example of the College's tendency to rush ahead without considering immediate consequences. The failures of Room Draw 1999 can be attributed to the College's decision to move forward on a system that was not tailored to the needs of current students. The results were unhappy upperclassmen and an overworked Residential Life staff. While Room Draw 2000 proceeded more smoothly, many students spent an unhappy year separated from friends.

Another such frustrating year may await Middlebury drivers. While the College is currently researching such short-term solutions such as rented parking for faculty at St. Mary's Church and first-year parking in the Kenyon lot, the fact remains that an unnecessary stress has been added to the Middlebury community.

At this stage, all that is left for the College to do is await a decision on the expansion of Ridgeline Woods. Then the first-years can be returned to their traditional allotment of space at the Center for the Arts and parking will most likely return to normal. However, the College should take this crunch as a lesson. With many exciting projects like the new library and Atwater senior housing on the horizon and an extra rush to get these plans underway during the Bicentennial year, the College should remember to take into consideration the happiness of the students already on campus. We won't mind a delay as long as it means that the College is doing its homework.

The Middlebury Campus

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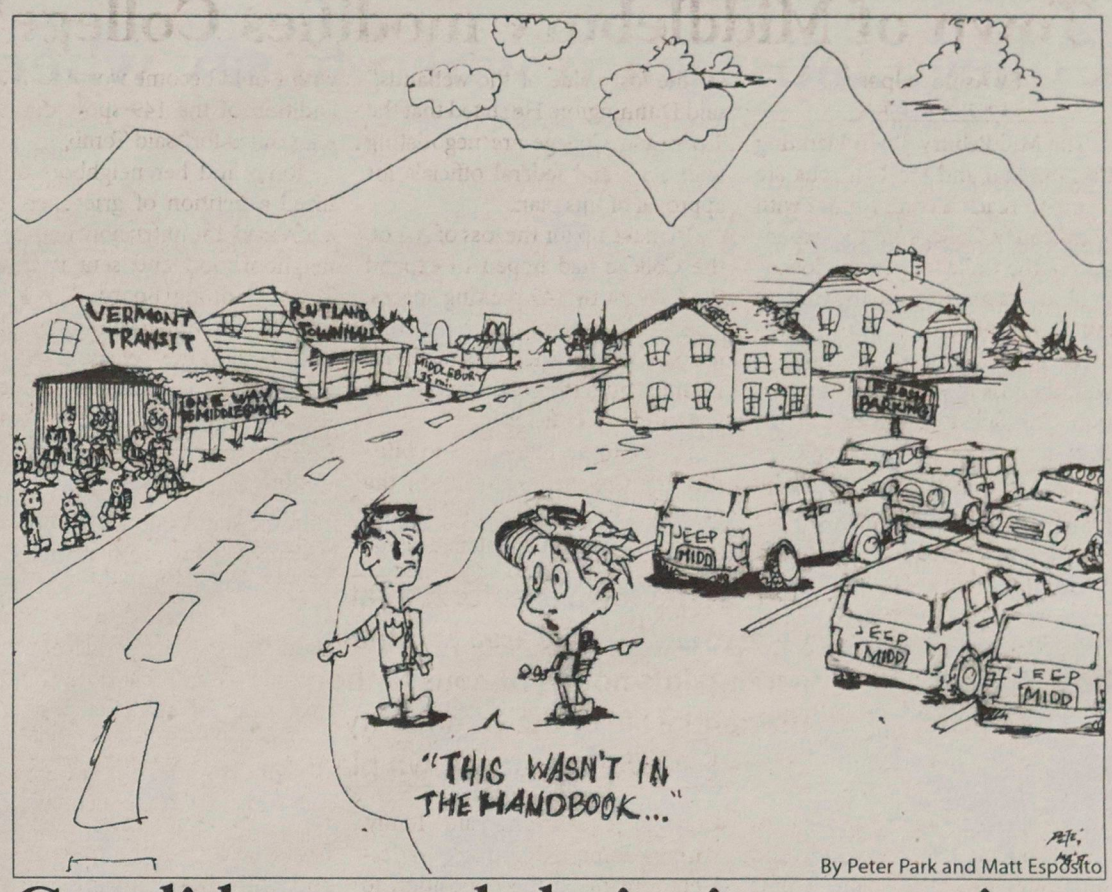


By Peter Park and Matt Esposito

Candidates and their ties to unions

By Thomas Replogle
Staff Writer

I know that a great many of you students (and faculty and staff) stand firmly on the left side of that political fence. I've always tried to keep my own opposing views to myself, all the while wishing my vote could cancel out more than one of yours, but someone discovered my secret and asked me to write why I'll be voting Republican. One among many reasons; I'm just tired of trade unions.

I'm sure you've all heard of those French truckers, who, during their most recent strike, blockaded the oil refineries and depots in France. The truckers wanted to draw attention towards their demand for lower oil taxes, and were willing to turn high fuel prices into a fuel crisis to achieve their goal. By choking off fuel transport, whole regions of France stood paralyzed during the duration of the strike. France's government was completely powerless to resolve this situation, and only with the intervention of other trucking and farming unions did the strike finally end.

Terror is a usual tool for the unions of France. The unions have grown so strong that nothing, save for another union, could stand against one. I blame the French for letting it happen, and I would always laugh at the French during this type of news story because I know we would never allow such a thing in America.

Remember Reagan and the air traffic controllers? Well, I feel less secure now. I don't know how many of you suffered through the summer without a phone, or maybe you only lost 411 service during the strike at Verizon. Perhaps some of you, in light of the recall, felt uncomfortable after the threat of strike from Firestone's workers. Do you believe that the power of unions is waning in this country? These are only some of the most recent examples of how unions have flexed their muscle and upset me.

Because of my fears, Gore wasn't representing me when he declared this summer, "It's time to repeal the permanent striker replacement laws in this country."

I don't think the unions are too weak now to achieve their goals. I believe that these laws are one of the few measures keeping our nation's unions from having a stranglehold on business. I will not support Gore in giving unions any more security or power in America.

Gore's bold position doesn't surprise me. Democrats have always depended heavily on support from trade unions, and ever since those free trade agreements, well, relations between unions and the current administration have been strained. Gore doesn't worry about unions joining the Republican ticket — remember Reagan? — but Ralph Nader has gotten some attention lately, and Gore's position on the rights of unions is part of his summer effort to return traditional democratic supporters to his camp. He seems to be having success.

And I find myself, as always, looking at Gore through the posts of that political fence.

Mom, you still think I'm No. 1, right?

By Jeffrey Jezierski
Staff Writer

No one said that being the best was going to be easy. At least that is one phrase you might consider when noticing Middlebury's slight drop in recent *US News and World Report* college rankings. This year Middlebury students can pat themselves on the back conscious of the fact that they attend the sixth best liberal arts school in the country. And, while that might not seem like such a bad thing, it does seem less glamorous than images of students who attended the same Middlebury last year which ranked fifth in the country.

So, of course, the logical question to ask is, "Where did we go wrong?" And, is rank so very important to us anway? (A question most commonly asked by students not attending the number one school.)

In order to examine how different our rank this year compares to our fifth place ranking last year one would have to compare the statistics in each of the seven categories used by *US News and World Report* to measure each school's academic quality.

These categories are: academic reputation, retention of students, faculty resources, student selectivity, financial resources, alumni giving and graduation rate performance. And, surprise, surprise, we rank very closely in each category to the eight schools listed before us: Amherst (1), Swarthmore (2), Williams (3), Wellesley (4), Pomona (5), and the three other sixth-placed schools — Bowdoin, Carleton and Haveford.

One could make the case that there is only slight variation between fifth and sixth place anyway and that being listed consistently among the top 10 is good enough. But why not number one? Or, why not fourth instead of fifth if the variation is not critical?

I look to one major factor that may be reason enough to explain our recent dip in the polls; we simply have too much on our plate.If you think of the physical changes taking place all around us right now (for example, construction of the new

(see Are, page 10)

Letters to the Editor Policy

The Campus is now accepting letters to the editor at 250 words or less, or opinions submissions at 1000 words or less. Submit works to Drawer 30 or directly to the Opinions Editors.

The Campus retains the right to edit all submissions.

College must learn when to say when

By Kevin King
Staff Writer

Road construction. Dorm construction. Parking changes. Pledge transformation. Satellite television bans. No athletic events at Homecoming. Strange black sculptures in front of Bicentennial Hall.

All these changes and more greeted Middlebury students upon their return to campus this past week. The list of what is new, different, or at very least in the process of changing here at Middlebury is astonishing — though not perhaps to incoming first-years and other newcomers. It would be hard to list on paper all that has come to change over the brief summer months, as physical modifications to the campus alone are numerous and dramatic.

I increasingly feel like very few of the recent changes are in the service of Middlebury students on campus today. I would venture to say that many other Middlebury students feel the same way. Why, after all, should we as a student body endure so many changes that directly affect our lives in a more or less negative manner? This is the question that I think the college administration could do a far better job of answering for today's puzzled students, for there is certainly a valid answer. All of these projects and policy changes, as far as I can tell, are in the service of creating an improved collegiate experience — 10 years down the road or more.

The realization that so many current projects and policy initiatives, be they physical construction, as is the case with Ross Commons or Starr Library, or more intangible policy changes as is the case with the presently nameless process formerly known as pledge, are being undertaken on borrowed time is quite startling to current students like myself.

Alumni are even affected by the recent rash of changes, though perhaps unintentionally, as Homecoming this fall features many events and celebrations at the expense of leaving out traditional athletic competitions and tailgating. Efforts are even underway by some recent alumni to organize a "real Homecoming" a few weeks before the school sponsored event, simply to allow for alumni to get together at sporting events to socialize and kick back some Otter Creek brew. I can't blame the alumni for embracing what has been more or less a staple of Homecoming for quite some time. Nor can I blame current students for balking at some of the puzzling policy changes. Students and their parents do pay in excess of $30,000 per year for delivery of services. No good business would operate by intentionally updating their product in a way that frustrates customers, so why do some of America's leading colleges?

Students are particularly rankled by those changes that stem from the Residential Life side of things. Twenty-five years ago the idea of college officials acting "in loco parentis" (in the place of parents) was generally unheard of — today it is not only the absolute norm, but is growing annually in strength. To some (including myself), the job of a college entity is to provide classrooms and professors to teach in them, not to curb the behavior of students and shape morals. I sincerely hope that students and alumni take a step back every now and then in tumultuous times like these to see the presently faint, yet extremely valuable silver lining. While I tend to resist change from the status quo with all possible might, I believe that many of the projects underway right now will do a great deal to make Middlebury a better place down the road — and that does count a great deal for students past and present, believe it or not. Take time to really consider the advantages each and every student enjoys now thanks to major times of renovation and change over the past few decades, and the whole matter takes on a new light. How would current students feel if we were without the Grille, state-of-the-art athletic training facilities, comfortable housing options, or Internet connections in dorm rooms?

When considering the fact that the College celebrates its bicentennial this year, one must look at how Middlebury has weathered so many years successfully. As far as I know, change has been a constant throughout, ranging from sale of the Battell lands, to introduction of co-education, to a transition toward a college-owned and directed "fraternity" system (call it what you must). The rule has indeed been changed, and more often than not Middlebury has been ahead of the times when it has opted to do so. As hard as it is for me to state it publicly, and amid so much uncertainty that greatly affects myself and my peers, I welcome the changes (as long as they are not solely in the interest of upping meaningless *US News* rankings).

I sincerely hope we can all look back a decade or so from now and be glad we dealt with less than desirable circumstances in order to make room for a better future.

A Little Taste of Reality

By Lisa Engelstein & Ruth Howell
Staff Writers

Chew on This:

In 1910:
23.8% of Americans had completed less than five years of elementary education
13.5% of Americans had completed high school
2.4% of Americans had completed four or more years of college

In 1940:
13.7% of Americans had completed less than five years of elementary education
24.5% of Americans had completed high school
4.6% of Americans had completed four or more years of college

In 1970:
5.3% of Americans had completed less than five years of elementary education
55.2% of Americans had completed high school
11.0% of Americans had completed four or more years of college

In 1998:
1.7% of Americans had completed less than five years of elementary education
82.8% of Americans had completed high school
24.4% of Americans had completed four or more years of college

Our Digestion:

Welcome back to Midd! Monday began another year of classes and found many of us gazing wistfully out the classroom windows of Bi-hall, daydreaming of summer festivities. It's hard to believe that we spend 140 days diligently in class each year. But then again, in 1910 almost one out of every four people had attended school for less than five years total, meaning they dropped out by age 10.

Over the last century, the importance of education for all individuals has increased significantly. The number of students applying to colleges has exploded, particularly at liberal arts institutions. We can see this trend even at Middlebury, evident in the recent housing crunch. A liberal arts education is preferred to a technical education by many students and employers. Since technical schools give you the necessary skills for specialized careers, why is there a demand for liberal studies? Given that we don't utilize Plato's Meno or the life cycle of C. elegans in many common career choices, what does a liberal arts education give us that makes us more marketable than graduates of technical colleges? For example, medical schools show greater interest in pre-med students with non-science majors than students who limit themselves strictly to scientific pursuits. One of the goals of a liberal arts education is to become a well-rounded individual. Why does this translate to marketability? We hope that our 560 days of liberal arts education at Middlebury will provide these answers before graduation.

Being boxed in with the big boys

By Raime Masket-Roth
Staff Writer

Here I am, a naïve little first-year trying to make all the right impressions, and I volunteer to expose my precious opinions to the entire campus. I might as well run naked across the roof of Mead Chapel. In August I received my eagerly awaited housing assignment. I was very surprised to learn that I'd be living in Hepburn with only 11 other first-years on a substance-free floor. There was an attached letter saying that I struck the housing department as a student who would thrive in this type of living environment. I'm very gullible, and I bought it. I felt honored that someone out there thought I was mature, and I was pompous thinking that I had disguised my immaturity. I was a bit annoyed that I'd been placed on a substance-free floor but told myself that it might be good for me. Eventually reality set in. I didn't fool anyone; nobody is silly enough to think I'm mature. Middlebury is understandably becoming a more popular school, and there just isn't enough room to accommodate all of us in traditional first-year dorms. That's completely understandable, but the housing department shouldn't sugar-coat the situation to make easily deceived people like me feel better.

Living in a hall with only 11 other first-years has had its good and bad points thus far. We have been getting along very well with each other, and I'm sure we'll become very tight, but it's hard knowing so many fewer first-years than everyone else. However, it is nice having so many upperclassmen around to answer all of our questions (and invite us to parties, hint hint), and we all know that Hepburn is nice and close to Proctor.

Most of the people I've spoken to on this so-called "substance-free" floor are not substance-free people and did not request it. Only one of us first-years did. Substance-free is a complete misnomer. Several people have said that they enjoy a clean, quiet living environment, but it is rather sad to think that that has to go hand-in-hand with substance-free. It should be called a "quiet hours" hall, or a "considerate living" hall. The main thing that calling it substance-free does is make our parents think that substance use is allowed in other places. Substance use goes on at college, even on a substance-free floor, and especially when most of the people living on it did not ask to be there.

Please don't let my ideas make you think I am angry or annoyed. To reiterate, I simply feel that the housing department should not disguise being displaced by a housing shortage as something honorable and that "substance-free" does not exist and should be called something different. A little housing silliness is not dampening my spirits in the least.

Are we just a number?

(continued from page 9)

Ross Commons) as representative of larger structural and internal changes also occurring (such as larger first-year enrollment) you begin to see that, yes, we are moving sometimes faster than the speed of lightning towards a bigger and brighter future.

In reference to the ranking criteria, Middlebury may not be off the mark as far as having high student selectivity and student retention rates, however, the effect of taking on many large changes at once may have had its ripple effect throughout our overall performance as a college. That is to say, along with the good comes the bad, and, as we grow, we need to figure out what works well and what needs to be left alone.

The logical question to ask is, where did we go wrong?

I do not believe that Middlebury went wrong anywhere to deserve a rank lower than last year, especially considering the obvious fact that if we look around we can smile and enjoy the high quality of student body and faculty alike, as well as state-of-the-art facilities, which all contribute to our edge on the academic world.

It should be noted, however, that ranking comes into play when applying to graduate schools and when we sit on the other side of the desk during those first job interviews.

Employers and admissions officers, who may not be so familiar with this gem of the Green Mountains, will look to the rankings to help them decide. So, a sixth-place ranking instead of a fifth does in fact have repercussions beyond what our mothers can brag about at social functions.

Speaking of mothers, I think we should consider some advice that my mom, and maybe yours, gave during those formative childhood years. When sitting at the table faced with a full plate, always remember to "take small bites and chew your food slowly so you don't choke."

Yes, we do want to finish what is on our plate right now. And, as we continue to celebrate the success of the past 200 years, we want to mark our progress with positive changes meant to benefit our community, which in turn benefits our futures as individuals. But let's not forget mom's advice at the same time, because, after all, we do not want to choke on all that we have yet to finish.

Mom also said rank does not matter, and that you can always believe you are number one, but I think she was referring to an ideal world in which Williams would be second.

Discover a day of Middlebury fun

By Raegan Randolph
Managing Editor

Middlebury College will kick-off its fall line-up of Bicentennial festivities on Sunday with Campus Discovery Day, a family-oriented carnival that will bring local residents and members of the College community together for an afternoon of games, food and music in honor of the College's 200th birthday.

From 1:00 to 4:00 p.m., the College will host a variety of activities ranging from ongoing musical treasure hunts, face-painting and games, to faculty-led demonstrations, lectures and hands-on workshops.

"[Campus Discovery Day] is a chance for the College and the community to celebrate the Bicentennial together on Middlebury's campus," said Mona Wheatley '56, director of Bicentennial planning.

Events for all ages will take place in three venues across campus, rain or shine, with continuous bus shuttle service to the Center for the Arts (CFA), Bicentennial Hall and the McCullough Quad.

In the CFA, visitors will be able to observe College theater and dance rehearsals in progress, participate in sing-alongs led by Francois Clemmons, director of the College Choir and watch Robert Lawton of Dining Services carve elaborate ice sculptures. Other activities in this venue include a musical treasure hunt in the Music Library, face-painting and the opportunity to witness a live broadcast on WFAD radio. Walking tours of campus architecture and landscaping also depart from this location.

According to Chaz Sternberg, catering manager of Dining Services, the CFA will feature carnival-like treats such as popcorn, cotton candy and chocolate-dipped bananas. All snacks and activities for Campus Discovery Day are free of charge.

On the lawn just outside McCullough Hall, the Middlebury Mountain Club will lead games for children and demonstrate camping safety techniques and tips. An outdoor stage will showcase various student performers as well as The Doughboys, a faculty band that plays a mix of folk, rock, Latin and oldies music.

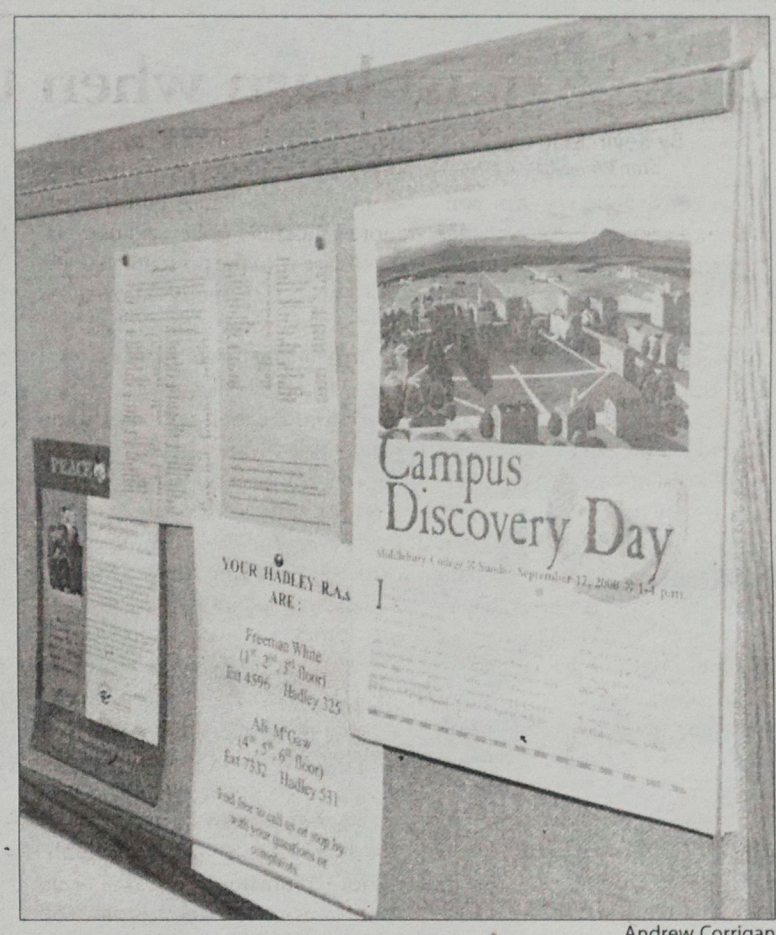
We designed Discovery Day to appeal to a broad range of people.
—Sarah Ray '85, associate director of public affairs

At Bicentennial Hall, Professor of Physics Frank Winkler will give a lecture on astronomy addressing two age-old questions: "How old is the universe?" and "Are we alone in it?" The geographic information systems lab will be open to visitors, who can map out town developments before they are built and identify new markets under the guidance of GIS Specialist Bill Hegman. Also in Bicentennial Hall, the husband-and-wife team of Jim Larrabee, associate dean of faculty and professor of chemistry, and Sunhee Choi, professor of chemistry, will show audiences how to make ice cream using liquid nitrogen. Edible samples as well as a scientific explanation of the results will be given.

Additional lectures at this location include "Applying to College and Preparing to Leave Home: Survival Tips for Parents and Students," "Learning Languages with Technology" and "Hands on Land: A History of the Vermont Landscape." In a lecture given by Karl Lindholm, dean of advising and assistant professor of American literature and civilization, baseball fans can hear about Vermonters and Middlebury alumni who made it to the major leagues. In particular, Lindholm will speak about Ray L. Fisher, a Middlebury native who played baseball in the major leagues for 10 years.

Outside Bicentennial Hall, on Discovery Court, there will be several kinds of food available for sampling. Vermont apples, cheese and cider will be available for munching while a student's own recipe for making a pie with these ingredients will be distributed. Visitors will also learn which apples are best for baking

(see Bicentennial, page 14)



Andrew Corrigan

On Sunday September 17, the campus will welcome members of the community to participate in a day filled with activities for everyone.

Orientation with a Commons twist

By Alison Hertel
Features Editor

Sport utility vehicles and station wagons lined Battell Circle. Parents fought for a close parking spot. Junior counselors helped students move in, lugging boxes, bags and small appliances up the stairs. A picnic with President McCardell brought throngs of nervous and excited parents and students to Proctor Terrace. Then the families separated to attend different meetings. Students heard from English Professor David Bain, and parents were introduced to their children's commons teams. Following these meetings there was a tearful goodbye between students and parents. These are the events that marked the first half of Monday, Sept. 4, the first day of orientation for the Class of 2004.

After completing placement exams, students were divided based on commons affiliation for their first dinner on campus.

"I very much enjoyed visiting all five commons dinners on the students' first night on campus," said President McCardell.

Each commons had planned something different for their group of students. For example, Cook Commons did "a combination of serious and funny things," according to Cook Commons Associate Pat Zupan. After dinner Commons Dean David Edleson read a diversity poll listing attributes of students, such as dancer, runner and artist, as well as where students were from. Students stood up and sat down as things that applied to them were called out. Then the first-years and their commons staff went onto Battell Beach where they performed a circle dance that became a spiral. Then they got together solemnly in a circle and Zupan read from the College Handbook about the quality of students at Middlebury. Following this there was a ceremony where the Residential Life staff played "Pomp and Circumstance" on kazoos, and the first-years received their own kazoos and hats. Cook has created new traditions for their commons. Elizabeth Beaton '02, a JC in Battell, said, "These activities promoted the closeness that the commons system tries to instill." Following the commons dinner first-years met with their halls and JCs.

After their first night in new beds, first-year students had this year's initial taste of academia with their first-year seminar meetings. Highlights of their second day on campus included an Academic Forum and buffet lunch at Kenyon Arena, a barbecue with President and Mrs. McCardell at their Smith Street home and a square dance. President McCardell said, "We had a great crowd at our house."

Wednesday, September 6, was a busy day for students. They met with their advisors and registered for classes. Many students also looked to their JCs for advice, wondering if their schedule was going to be too demanding or their profes-

(see Orientation, page 16)

First-years explore Vermont, community, the outdoors

By Anne DeWitt
Associate Editor

Freshman week tends to be a blur–new faces, new buildings, new food, a new bedroom; for many, a new state or even a new country. And as soon as you figure out how the Proctor toasters work and learn to open your mailbox, you find yourself whisked away from campus to explore the Green Mountain State, from Ben and Jerry's to Breadloaf to Burlington's Church Street (This Is Vermont); participate in a local community service programs that range from trail maintenance to childcare (Volunteer Preview) or get really dirty while biking, hiking, canoeing, rock-climbing or fly-fishing (Middelbury Outdoor Orientation, or MOO).

This Is Vermont started six years ago as an alternative to MOO. Jenna Sutton '03 worked with Doug Adams, director of Campus Activities, to organize the event this year. She considers This Is Vermont an opportunity for first-years "to get to meet people."

Jenna spent her summer on campus, working part-time to put together the activities that make up This Is Vermont. "It never ever ends until it all starts," she said. 185 first-years signed up for the trip, but the organizers had to accomodate MOOers and Previewers who decided to switch, and include first-years who found themselves cut from sports teams.

This Is Vermont began on Wednesday of orientation week, when the first-years, accompanied by 12 leaders and 13 junior counselors, piled into buses after dinner and headed up to Middlebury's Bread Loaf campus. English professor David Bain gave a history of Breadloaf and the surrounding areas; everyone participated in ice-breaker activities and then headed to the barn to listen to music by local group Brisson and Cooper. Then they headed to bed, but not before a giant pillow fight.

The following morning the Pine Ridge Adventure group led the students in bonding activities. Wolf Song of the Abernaki tribe told stories after lunch; he was followed by John Gailmore, a local singer. Then everyone went back to Middlebury.

Friday was the big trip to Burlington. After a couple hours on Church Street, everyone boarded the Spirit of Ethan Allen for a cruise on Lake Champlain. The day ended back at Middlebury, with a performance by singer Barbara Kessler of Vermont.

Saturday afternoon 50 first-years went to Waterbury for a tour of the Ben and Jerry's factory (and free samples); 30 went to Manchester for the outlet malls; 20 went to Lake Dunmore to enjoy the beautiful weather.

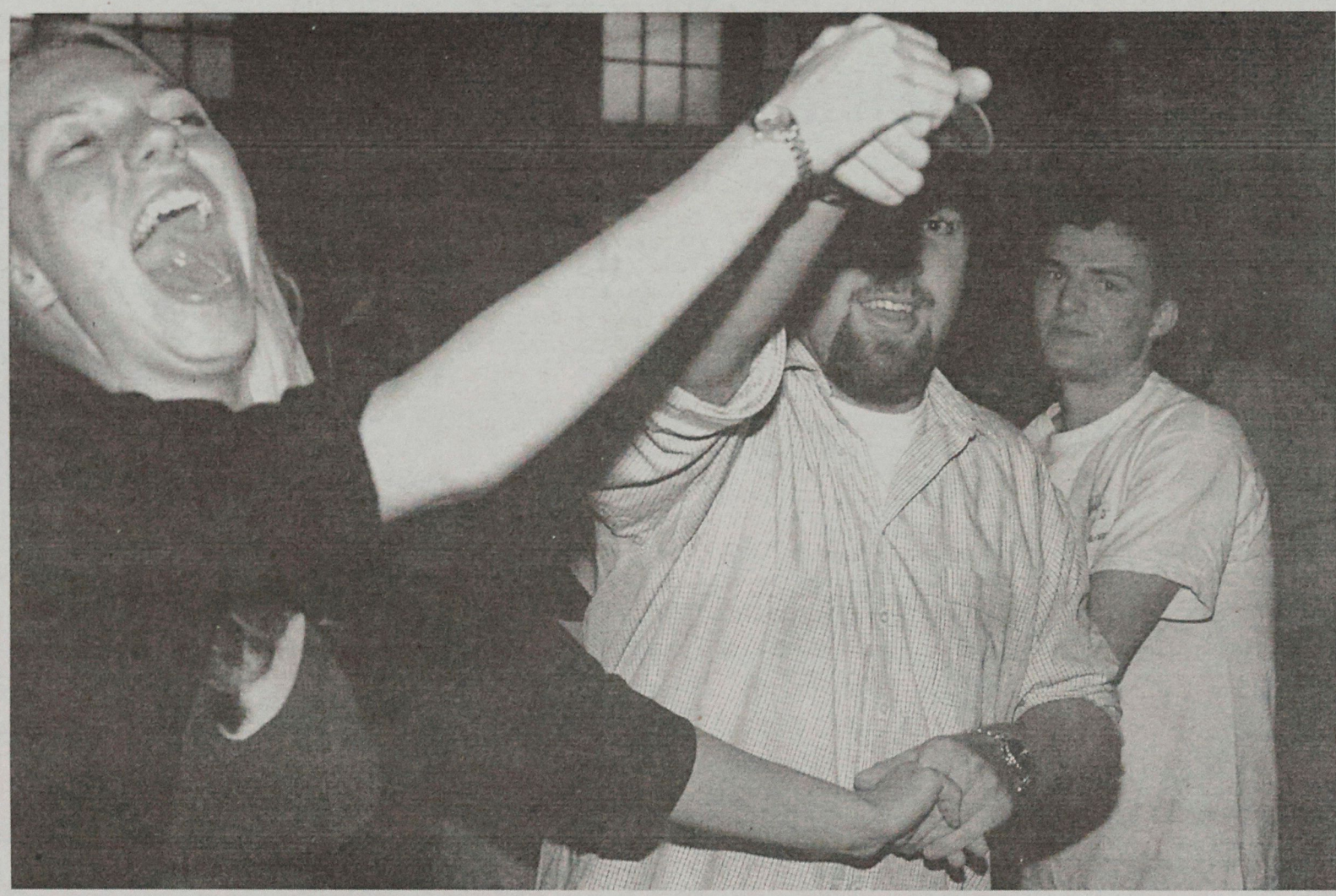
"I didn't want to start out with a really hardcore thing in the mountains, but I wanted to do something fun," said Todd Metter '04 of Pittsboro, North Carolina. He enjoyed the experience, especially Wolf Song's storytelling.

Doug Dagan '02.5 stepped in as MOO coordinator late in July when the student who had originally held the position was involved in a motorcycle accident. This left Dagan with little over a month to plan the event. "It wasn't an ideal year for MOO in terms of organization, but

(see First-years, page 14)

Eric Skovsted

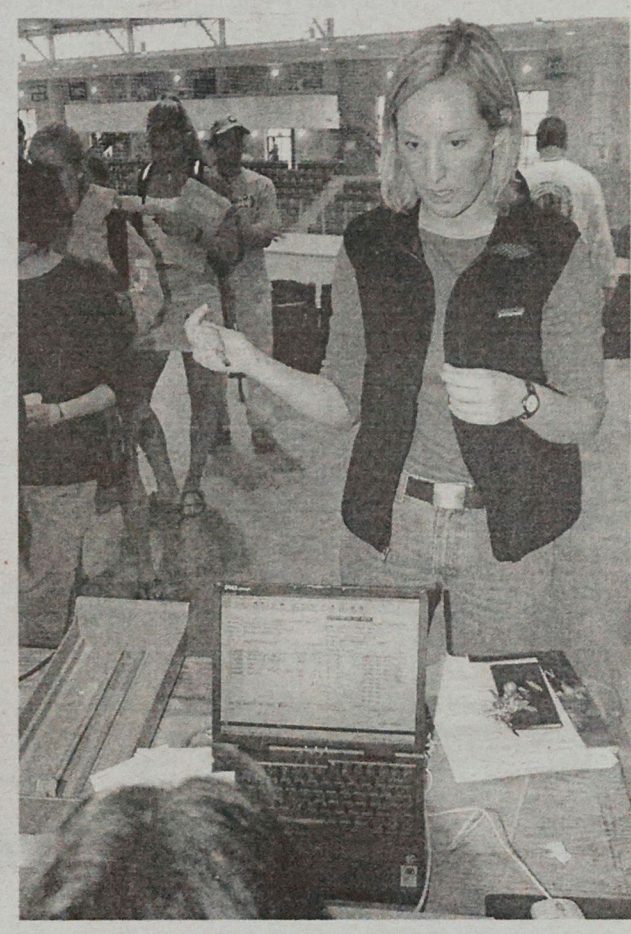
Not all of MOO is slogging up and down the Long Trail as the hungry and happy Jean Burr '01, Brenden Mulder-Rosi '04 and Joanna Logue '04 demonstrate during an outdoor feast of bean burritos and hot coccoa.

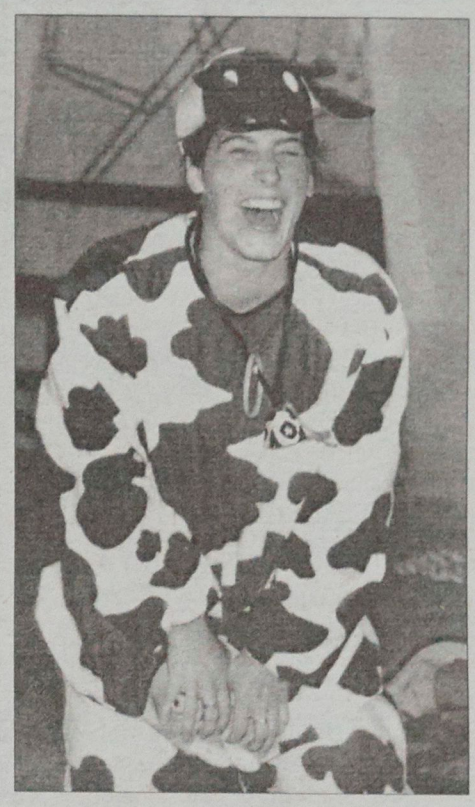


First-year Orientation 2000

Last week a new group of first-years descended upon Middlebury bringing energy and excitement to campus. They were welcomed to the College with many festivities and events.

Photographs by Andrew Corrigan, Photo Editor





Photographs by Eric Skovsted,
Photo Editor

Mozambique: education, service and perspective

By Elizabeth Toan
Staff Writer

While many Midd-kids lounged around in the summer sun, eight students flew half way around the world, from New York, N.Y. to Harare, Zimbabwe, to help with reconstruction and clean-up efforts in Mozambique and Zimbabwe after three months of torrential spring rains.

The Middlebury College Relief Team included Assistant Professor of Psychology Augustus Jordan, Administrative Director of the Health Center Kathleen Ready, and students Mishael Coggeshall-Burr '00, Sarah Glendon '01, Nadezhda Tkachenko '00, Peter Dixon '01, Arvind Ponnambalam '01, Suzanne Slarsky '02, Brian Hoyer '03 and Benjamin Morris '03. A committee comprised of Middlebury College Chaplain Laurie Jordan, a faculty member, an associate dean of student affairs and graduate Negar Ashtari '00 selected these eight students from 67 applicants.

Ashtari became active in Mozambique when tropical cyclones caused massive destruction in southern Africa, not far from her homeland of Botswana. The storms lasted from February through April, causing the worst flooding in southern Africa's recent history. Ashtari launched an earlier relief effort, "Midd-Mozambique Relief Initiative: Race Against Time." She has fund-raised thousands of dollars in support of Mozambique's disaster relief effort to help provide shelter, clean water and food for the hundreds of thousands of victims.

Middlebury College Chaplain Laurie Jordan was one of the chief organizers for the trip. She contacted Middlebury alumnus Lee Adkins and his wife Bonnie of Salisbury, Vt., who have been very active in previous relief efforts in Africa, leading volunteer groups to the area and serving as official observers for Mozambique's 1994 presidential elections. The Adkins arranged for the Middlebury volunteers to be housed at Africa University in Zimbabwe. Jordan said of the trip, "It was hard work but it turned out great. The students feel really good about what they did."

Before embarking, the Relief Team collected books, clothes and money from the Middlebury community. Hoyer also arranged for a donation of $150 to PROJECT CURE in order to obtain a kit containing $3,000 of medical supplies. The group donated these supplies to Dombe, one of the villages hit the worst.

The group did a lot of reconstruction and clean up in the town of Chimoio and other villages in the Manica Province and gave books to Africa University. Slarsky said "Much of what we did was more preventative against destruction rather than reconstruction. We were unable to go to many of the places needing reconstruction because of land mines." The group's main project in Zimbabwe was performing repairs on a village school, the Chinyauhwera School, with Africa University faculty and students, and their main project in Mozambique was re-roofing houses. Slarsky said, "Putting tin on roofs can make the difference between a house's preservation or destruction in a storm."

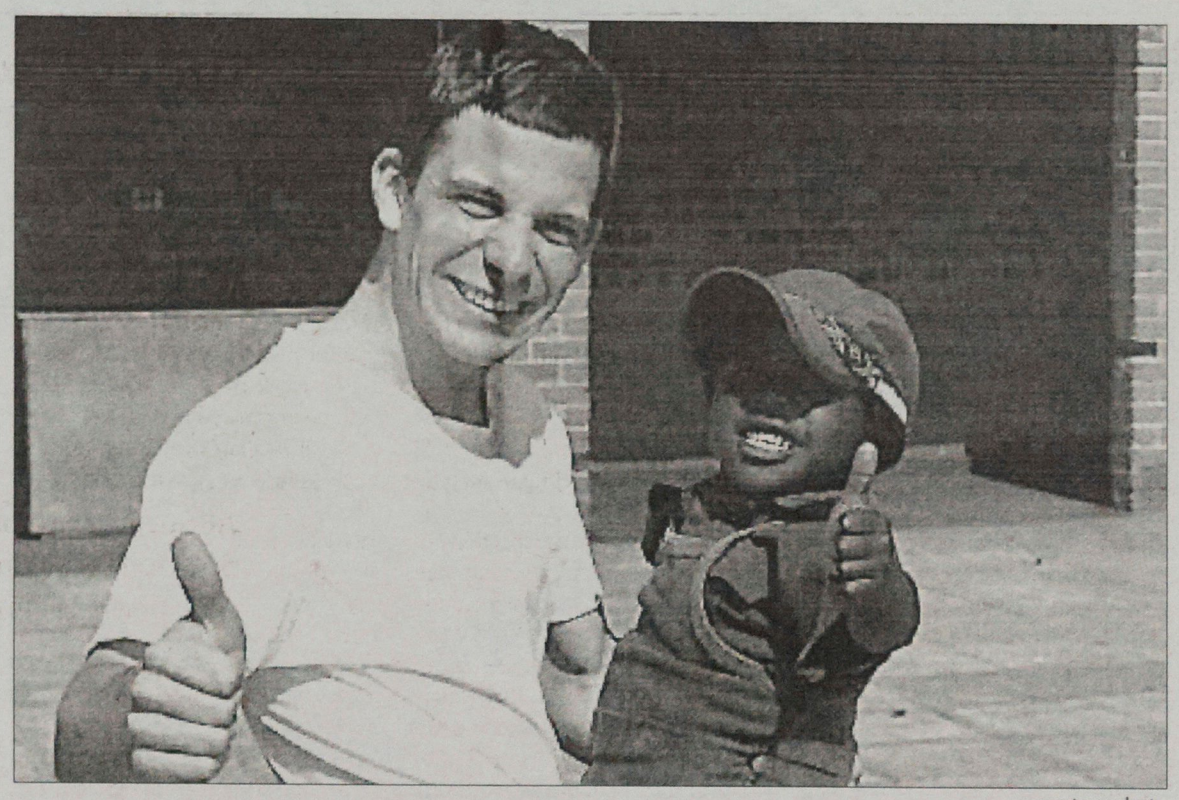
> We each came away with a lot more than we gave.
> —Laurie Jordan, College Chaplain

While in the village of Munyarari, the team discovered that sponsorship of students is another way to assist. One year of high school education costs $35 in Munyarari. Slarsky coordinated the Middlebury volunteers to sponsor nine Munyarari youth. Slarsky returned with a list of 21 students needing sponsorship. Contact Laurie Jordan for more information.

There is great debate over whether it is more beneficial to spend money on sending more volunteers or to send fewer volunteers and give more money to the communities. There was some criticism of the group for sending so many volunteers at high cost. Ponnambalam said, "There are long-term benefits to sending more volunteers, both abroad and on campus. We each came away with a lot more than we gave. Hopefully this will encourage service learning in Middlebury."

President McCardell had no hesitations supporting the Relief Team. On June 23, members of the Middlebury College Relief Team were honored at a reception on the college campus where McCardell presented each team member with a citation of commendation.

The team returned with ideas on how to continue giving aid to Mozambique and Zimbabwe while back on campus, including sponsoring the high school education of African students. What started as an emergency rescue and relief mission turned into a long-term pledge of support.



courtesy photo
Ben Morris '03 shares a smile with an orphan at the Old Mutare orphanage in Zimbabwe last summer. Morris was one of a select group of student sthat provided much needed relief to that area.

First-years get off campus, in touch with each other

(continued from page 11)

it all went off really smoothly." Over 300 first-years (about 60 percent of the entire class) signed up for MOO. At eight first-years and at least two leaders per trip, that meant 39 groups and 81 leaders—the biggest Outdoor Orientation in its thirteen years of existence. The trips included backpacking, with three different intensities (Worth, Stark and Abe, in order of ascending difficulty), which took place mostly along the Long Trail, although two groups did venture to the Appalachian Trail. Four groups of canoers headed to the Saranac Lakes; two trips of rock climbers belayed and rappelled in the Adirondacks; three mountain biking trips rocketed around Mt. Moosalamoo, near Lake Dunmore; and one fly fishing trip cast off in the Northeast Kingdom.

"It's a huge logistical undertaking," said Dagan. His responsibilities included placing first-years into their groups, arranging transportation to and from the mountains, organizing food for the three-day trips and planning the MOO leader training.

"The point of MOO is to foster a bonding experience," said Dagan. "MOO provides a feeling of place and belonging." He hopes that the orientation experience will stay with the first-years during the upcoming semesters. "I tried to emphasize to the leaders to be there after MOO," he said.

"I think it's a great way to help freshman in dealing with some of the challenges they might meet in the next year," said Rob Verger '00. "The less cheesy reason is that it's really a lot of fun." This is Verger's fourth year with MOO. This year, he led a Stark group that hiked north on the long trail from Route 4 to Route 73, covering a total of 20.3 miles in three days. They woke up at seven, left camp by eight and made it to the next site by five in the evening, staying in shelters maintained by the Green Mountain Club and cooking their meals on small camping stoves along the way.

Kate Davis '04 of Hamden, Conn., was part of Rob's group, which was co-led by Liz Williams '02. "I'm a really active and athletic person, and I wanted to do something in the outdoors," said Davis, currently a member of Middlebury's crew team, explaining her reasons for choosing MOO. She found that the trip was a nice end to orientation week: "It was nice to get out in nature and forget about what was coming."

Tiffany Sargent, director of service learning & student employment, was in charge of organizing Volunteer Preview, although the 14 leaders did help with planning evening events and speaking to site supervisors. "Volunteer Preview is an opportunity for students to do a few different things," said Sargent. Among these, she listed meeting other first-years in a small group setting; getting to know older students; and receiving an introduction to their new home. "I think it's so valuable when students get experience off campus and in the community," she said.

A total of 49 first-years participated in Volunteer Preview. On the first day of the event, groups went to Project Independence, an adult day care center; the Addison County Community Action Group (ACCAG), an umbrella organization that serves various needs of local people; the Round Robin Thrift Shop; the Otter Creek Child Care center; the Addison County Women in Crisis group; the Mary Johnson Children Center or the Helen Porter Nursing Home. One group helped with trail maintenance for the walking paths maintained by the Middlebury Area Land Trust.

The following day, the seven groups split off again to participate in an International Literacy Day celebration at a day care; to work at St. Mary's school, the Evergreen House (which serves disabled adults) or ACCAG; or to clear trails for the Middlebury Area Land Trust, for an overlook at Moosalamoo Mountain or for the Green Mountain Club on the Sucker Brook trails.

Nick Olson '02 participated in Volunteer Preview as a first-year and led groups as a sophomore and junior; he plans to return to the program next fall. He enjoys the contrast between the service opportunities that Volunteer Preview offers and those in which he participated during high school. "Here there are a lot more material and tangible results," he said.

Nick's group of first-years split up for the first day of Preview. One group headed an elder care group for an afternoon of games, reading and walks with the members; the other worked at the ACCAG, where they did some light landscaping and dismantled computers for parts. After a night at Bread Loaf, they spent Friday with a day care and helped them celebrate National Literacy Day.

"I thought it was a great experience to meet new people and talk to others with the similar interests in volunteering and helping people out," said first-year Josh Harper, a member of Nick's group. Harper, of Laguna Niguel, CA., did a great deal of community service while in high school, where he worked mainly with the disabled. While at Middlebury he intends to become a Big Brother to a local child and also hopes to become involved with a day care.

Bicentennial fun for all at Campus Discovery Day

(continued from page 11)

and eating. Sushi lovers will be invited to practice the art of Japanese sushi-rolling side-by-side with Chef Walter Van Price of dining services.

Walking tours, lectures and demonstrations are approximately 30-45 minutes long, and activities in Bicentennial Hall and the CFA will take place twice during the afternoon.

All Discovery Day events have been planned by members of the College community, including faculty, staff and students, with a focus on creating attractions of general public appeal.

"We designed Discovery Day to appeal to a broad range of people and cover an array of topics," said Sarah Ray '85, associate director of public affairs. "Hopefully this opening weekend will encourage people to come again during Founder's Day."

For more information and a complete schedule of events please visit http://www.middlebury.edu/200/discovery or go to the CFA patio entrance on the day of the event and ask a guide to direct you

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What About Bob?

By Bob Wainwright
News Editor

The strangest aspect of coming back to school each year is not the new faces, nor the new classes, nor even the absurd discovery that there is no football game on homecoming day. No, the single strangest aspect is definitely the fact that the first two weeks of school are the only weeks of the year in which virtually all conversations are held in unison by both parties involved.

Allow me to clarify. You run into a friend you have not seen, and you both exclaim, "Hi!" Names will either be left out completely or quietly murmured, because each person doubts they have remembered it correctly. Next, each person asks, "How was your summer?" and follows the question with the immediate reply, "Good." Startled by the sudden realization that the same six words have just been uttered by both people at the exact same time, each person swiftly walks away, annoyed at the awkwardness of the whole situation. Or if one of the people is a lunatic, he or she could theoretically walk away thinking, "Phew. Thank God that person I hung out with for nine months of the past year had a good summer!"

Actually, what truly spurred my thinking on this phenomenon was the memory of my own encounters with people who would never even consider being so dull as to spout out formalities. Instead, the people I worked with this summer like to say whatever is on their minds with utter disregard for timing, tact and, quite often, intelligence. These are the most real people I will ever meet. And, oh yeah, for the vast majority of them, Clinton is the only President they have ever known.

For eleven weeks this summer, I taught young kids the game of tennis. My primary responsibility, however, was to agree with any statements or ideas that popped into their tiny brains. For instance, a five-year-old named Eddie told me this: "Bobby, my mom said it was okay if I pee directly on ants, because they need nourishment for the queen." Never heard that before, but it sounds good, Eddie. Another time, six-year-old John wondered out loud, "Why don't they play tennis with really big balls in pools?" I don't know John, but I'll have the USTA look into it.

Meanwhile, John's friend Michael was constantly striving for a firmer grasp on both time and relationships. "Bobby, are you and Jenny married?" No, Michael, we only work together. "Are you older than my dad?" No. "Is Jenny older than my mom?" No. (At this point he paused to form some sort of conclusion in his head.) "Girls can be

(see Conversations, page 16)

Donation honors student volunteers, aids non-profits

By Anne DeWitt
Associate Editor

Firefighting is in senior Benjamin Pratt's blood. The son and grandson of firefighters, Pratt has maintained his family tradition by working for the town of Middlebury's all-volunteer fire department since his sophomore year of college. "The reason that I volunteer is because someone has to do it," said Ben. "I enjoy it–I like the feeling of helping people out."

Helping people is the speciality of seven Middlebury students on whose behalf the college recently donated $3500 to non-profit organizations. In a ceremony on April 25, six students received Public Service Leadership awards, and one was presented with the Alma Gibbs Donchian award. All seven were presented with $500 to donate to the non-profit organization of their choice. The groups included Middlebury Union Middle School; Vermont Special Olympics; Lawrence Memorial Library, in Bristol, Vt.; Addison County Women in Crisis; Middlebury Fire Department; Counseling Service of Addison County and the William Mmutele Masethla Foundation in Zambia.

For the second year in a row, alumnus Patrick Durkin '79 donated the money for this honor. Durkin is currently managing director and head of the International Banking Group at Donaldson, Lufkin & Jenrette in New York, and he participates extensively in public service. A member of the boards for CARE International, the American Red Cross of Greater New York, and the South Street Seaport Museum of New York City, he also belongs to the Council of Excellence in Government, the Asia Society, and the Council on Foreign Relations, and he volunteers as co-chair of the New York Leadership Gifts Committee for Middlebury's Bicentennial Campaign.

Along with Pratt, five other students received a Public Service Leadership Award.

Negar Ashtari '00 has volunteered at schools in Zambia and her native Botswana, worked for women's rights in Gabarone and the Tahirih Justice Center in Virginia, increased campus awareness of African studies and minority issues and organized the Middlebury-Mozambique Relief Initiative.

Christopher Clark '00 received 220 hours of training to become a member of the Middlebury Volunteer Ambulance Association, where he provided emergency medical care for over 20 hours of scheduled duty a week from September 1997 until he graduated in May 2000.

Carol Williams '00 led the College's Volunteer Service Organization and was leader of Volunteer Preview; she also worked with the physically and cognitively disabled in such organizations as Counseling Service of Addison County, Evergreen House and Danny's Team-Vermont and organized a charity ball and dinner for People of Addison County Together Youth Summit.

All seven were presented with 500 dollars to donate to the non-profit organization of their choice.

During the school year, Joshua Raufman '02 has coached a local league of disabled adult swimmers in preparation for Special Olympics Vermont, and he has returned in the summer to participate in the State Summer Games, which take place at the University of Vermont and Middlebury College.

In 1997 President McCardell met with Victor Swenson, executive director of the Vermont Council on the Humanities. The two decided that in celebration of the College's 200th birthday, the school would participate in an extensive literacy project as a means of giving back to the community. Tiffany Sargent, director of service learning & student employment, was put in charge; she recruited Julia Shreve '98 and Abigale Stoller '00 to help her organize the effort that summer, and the Page 1 Bicentennial Literacy Project was born. With a 200,000 dollar grant from the Alma Gibbs Donchian Charitable Foundation, the college has been able to hire Margaret Sanchez to help with the project.

Two Page 1 volunteers were recognized at the ceremony. Stoller received a Public Service Leadership award for her help in founding Page 1 and in continuing to be an active participant in the group during her time here. For the past two years, Elizabeth Beetem '02, who received the Alma Gibbs Donchian Award for her work with the Bristol After-School Kids program, has aided her in her efforts.

A total of 37 student volunteers were honored at the dinner. They had been nominated for the award by local organizations and by students, faculty or staff on campus. The nominees then submitted their applications to a three-person committee convened by Tiffany Sargent, which chose the finalists.

Sargent said that the purpose of these awards is "to recognize outstanding leadership in service; to recognize that there's diversity in that leadership." She feels that the monetary aspect gives the students "power or authority—they decided where the money is going to go, and it goes in their names."

Ginger noodles satisfy taste and wallet

By Margaret Aycock and Kristine Palmero
Staff Writers

There's nothing like a violent craving for dumplings or a good plate of Thai noodles or maybe some really spicy kim chee. But what if you want all three? This is where the Pacific Rim becomes an attractive place to fulfill these longings. The food is not as expensive as Burlington's other Asian restaurant counterparts and it isn't as difficult to find either. However, experience suggests that the restaurant's prices and its easy location are the Pacific Rim's greatest assets. When we went out to dinner on Saturday evening, we discovered that the Pacific Rim, although worth trying, isn't as exciting as its name suggests.

Because we missed lunch on Saturday, our stomachs were as empty as our eyes were wide when we reached Pacific Rim. The menu is diverse and the prices are college-student friendly. Even before we ordered our food, we had already prematurely decided that we were going to come back for more. Off the appetizer menu, we selected the Korean shrimp cakes ($7.50) a medium-sized bowl of miso soup ($3.50) and pork dumplings ($4). Hilary Watts '01 ordered the vegetarian roll, but it never arrived. The appetizers were probably the best part of the meal, and if you order at least a couple of things off of the appetizer menu, you could come up with a complete dinner. While waiting for our entrees, we enjoyed our cocktails. The Asian bomb ($5) was really good, but Watts's Cosmopolitan ($5) was "headed the tequila path...the wrong way for my taste buds," acccording to Hilary Watts '01. Unfortunately, we continued to twiddle our chopsticks, waiting for our Burmese spicy noodles ($6), Pad Thai ($6) and ginger noodles ($6) long after we had finished our appetizers.

Experience suggests that the restaurant's prices and its easy location are the Pacific Rim's greatest assets.

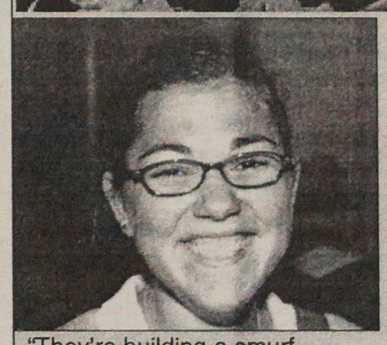
If you like ginger and noodles, you're set at Pacific Rim. The ginger noodles and the Burmese spicy noodles were satisfying, but the Pad Thai was bland. This popular Thai entree, which is a noodle dish with peanuts, scrambled egg and bean sprouts, was disappointing, tasting more like thick spaghetti dipped in thin marinara sauce. The food, with the exception of the Pad Thai, was a fairly satisfying dinner, and even though the dining experience was not what we had hoped, it was still adequate. The Pacific Rim would be a good place to stop (but not if you're in a hurry; the service was extermely slow for the number of patrons in the restaurant) if you are up in Burlington and want some fairly inexpensive Asian food, but not a place worth making an express trip to visit. One note of caution though- they only take cash or checks- no plastic accepted.

CAMPUS VOICES

What is the College going to do with the hole behind Adirondack?

Compiled by Alison Hertel

Photos by Alex Westra

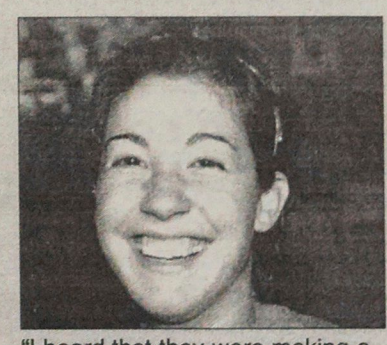


"They're building a smurf village."

--Lean Fagan '02.5

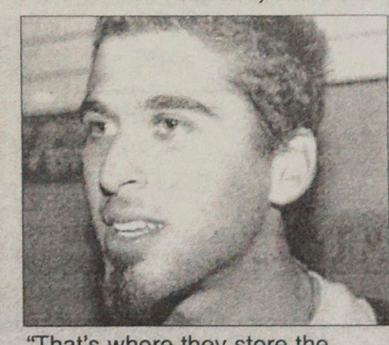
"They are going to make it cheaper for people to go abroad to China."

--Molly May '02 & John Katz '02



"I heard that they were making a big Jacuzzi, swimming pool type thing."

--Amy Formica '03



"That's where they store the doodie."

--Jeremy Schreiner '01

First-year insight: not at summer camp anymore

By Meghan Michelson
Staff Writer

My first day of summer camp at a small, woodsy lodge set in Northern California was one of the most exciting and traumatic days of my life. As a rather shy nine-year-old, I was intimidated by the masses of unfamiliar faces and overwhelmed by the opportunities that would make up the next two weeks of my life. This is exactly how I felt on my first day at Middlebury College.

I, along with my fellow members of the graduating class of 2004, approached the scheduled move-in day with a sense of thrill and anticipation. We carted load after load of boxes and trunks stuffed to the brim with items such as new sheets and towels, warm clothes our mothers forced us to bring for the upcoming cold weather, and enough random electrical appliances to deplete the power of a small country. We walked around with permanently outstretched hands to meet the people who will one day become our best friends. We stared down the size of our dorm rooms and wondered with curiosity just how we were going to fit all the belongings we had brought to make our new rooms feel like home into these tiny spaces, much less have room leftover for the items belonging to our roommates.

As for me, by the end of the day, I half expected us to gather around a campfire, roast marshmellows and sing Kumbaya.

After finally convincing our parents that we were going to be just fine without them, we strategically organized our rooms, and with the placement of a floor rug, and a few photos, began to feel more comfortable. As for me, by the end of the day, I half expected us to gather around a campfire, roast marshmallows and sing Kumbaya.

During our first few days we were extremely thankful for the advice and guidance from our junior counselors and other knowledgeable leaders, who informed us not only where and how to do things, but also made sure we didn't look like losers in the process. We survived our first few meals at Proctor, learning for the first time that Lucky Charms and cottage cheese do go well together. Our campus guides became our daily bibles, as we relied on them to get us around. Orientation trips brought us newfound friendships and continued to encourage that summer camp environment, where everything is scheduled and ice-breaking games are common.

Through a painfully, rigorous procedure of selecting classes, we accepted that our fairytale, homework free week of socializing was about to come to an end. Most of us spent so much time worrying about meeting friends and getting to know each other that we conveniently forgot that we are actually here to study.

There are 1.6 million students who are beginning college this fall at campuses across the country. Of those 1.6 million, 573 chose to attend Middlebury College. We chose to come here for our own particular reasons, much like children choose to attend different summer camps based on their favorite recreational activities. Some of us are athletes, some musicians, and others artists, but all have chosen to come from all over the world to experience life in Vermont.

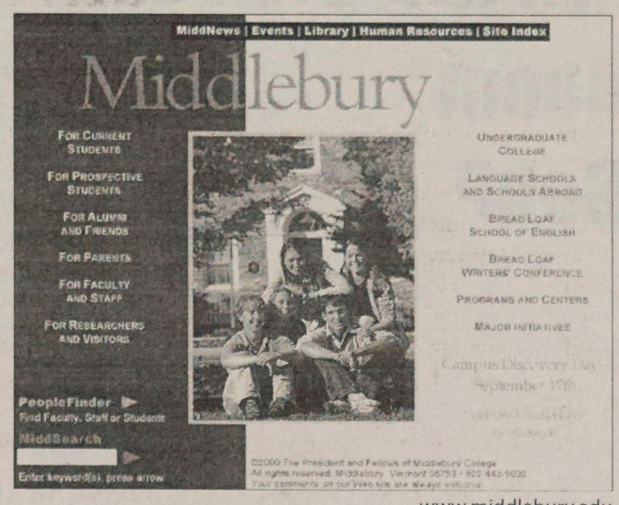
Our first few days at Middlebury College have satisfied our illusions of college life. But we still struggle with the fact that, unlike summer camp, we're not going home in a few weeks. The comfort of everyday life at home is no longer accessible, but we are gaining a new sense of security. This lifestyle is still as foreign to us as our early morning calculus and Italian classes, but reality is starting to set in. I just have to keep reminding myself that I am no longer at summer camp.

College Web site receives facelift

By Alison Hertel
Features Editor

The Middlebury College Web site has been given a fresh face with help from Steve Metzler, director of publications and Web communication. Metzler and Carrie Rampp, manager of web communications, worked throughout the summer to revamp the site. "The site had been fairly static for quite some time," said Metzler in explanation of the initiative. As a result, a plan was put together to get staff involved and do a major redesign. Although Metzler, a graphic designer, designed the site, he gives credit for the implementation to Rampp.

Before, it was a "one-size-fits-all site." said Metzler. "Different folks search a site in different ways," he continued. He hopes that now the site will be more easily accessible for all types of visitors: faculty, staff, students, researchers, parents and perspectives. Now, when a visitor mouses over the points on the left side of the homepage a box pops up so the visitor can see where the link will lead. Metzler also listed the quick search function, MiddSearch, and the PeopleFinder (replacing the old directory) as ways in which the site is easier to navigate. The new design may be difficult for students to get used to at first. Jessica Monroe '02 said, "I have had trouble trying to find a simple way to get to things, but once I get used to it, it may not be a problem anymore."



www.middlebury.edu
The new Middlebury College website's opening photo changes each time someone logs on.

Prior to this spring there was no single office that handled the College's Web site. Now, responsibility for the top levels of the site–the pages done in the blue and beige format of the homepage–has been placed in the communications office under the supervision of Metzler and his team. Different departments still maintain the inner portions of their sites. For example, the Admissions Office's gateway and links were designed by Metzler, but the inner portions of the site are still of the office's own design.

Metzler says, "Is it a perfect site? No." He admits that the site is "a work in progress" and welcomes feedback, but he also believes that it is "an improvement over the previous site."

Conversations with kids skip the formalities

(continued from page 15)

fun sometimes, because they are easy to trade Pokemon cards with, but they never want to play War." Excellent synopsis, Michael.

Despite their ability to make frequent comments that would baffle the mind of a lowly hyena, the kids also had a knack for making me out to be the fool. While picking up balls one day, Daniel turned to me with a big smile on his face and announced that his dad knew someone who was "running for senator." Oh really. Senator of what state, Daniel? "Of the country." That's impossible Daniel. One can only be a senator of a state. So what state is it? His reply came swiftly. "He's going to be senator of the country."

At that point, Edward came to my defense. "Bobby's right, Daniel. I should know. My uncle's a senator." (I was relieved.) Of what state, Edward? "Of Canada. He's senator of Canada." I laughed, but Daniel was not done. "I know Canada," he said. "It's in Montreal." No, Daniel. You're wrong. Montreal happens to be the capital of Canada.

I knew what was about to happen the second I spoke, but there was nothing I could do. Simon, our Canadian expert, perked up immediately from the tower of balls on his racquet and yelled from a distance of ten feet. "No, Bobby! The capital of Canada is Ottawa!" Six pairs of eyes suddenly stared at me. Nobody said a word. Then finally, a meek little voice perked up, "Bobby, I thought you knew everything." The illusion had been broken.

Being corrected by a six-year-old in front of boys and girls the same age can be a dangerous occurrence, as I learned soon afterwards. The next game we played was called Island, and all eight children were captives whose only hopes for survival lay in their ability to successfully make forehands and volleys.

My own education regarding the capitals of large countries now very suspect, it didn't take long before all eight kids gathered together, formed an alliance called the Tagi Tribe, held a tribal council meeting and immediately voted me off the island. They even put out my tiki torch.

Orientation week, now done Commons-style

(continued from page 17)

sors too difficult. The next day-and-a-half was devoted to orientation trips.

On Friday, Sept. 8, the first-years who were not on MOO trips attended A Night at the Grille, a time for students to mingle while sampling Grille food and music.

On Saturday, Sept. 9, all first-years were back on campus in time for them to attend their first Late Night McCullough Dance Party. They, along with the rest of the campus, donned their party clothes and got ready to dance. The video DJ gave first-years a taste of the typical McCullough Dance party, and the crowd was enthusiastic, perhaps a little too enthusiastic at times when people were body surfing, but it appeared that most of the students were having a good time.

...there was a ceremony where the Residential Life Staff played "Pomp and Circumstance" on kazoos...

First-years got a chance to sleep in on Sunday morning before lining up for convocation which was held at 3:30 in Mead Chapel. President McCardell said, "I was very impressed to observe this year's Convocation procession, which even more vividly highlighted the Commons, and in which members of the Class of 2004 seemed to be fully and enthusiastically involved." The final activities of orientation week were Voices of 2004 and an a cappella jamboree, both held in Mead Chapel on Sunday evening.

A conscious effort was made during orientation week to use the commons as a way to divide students into smaller, more intimate groups in which they could get to know each other better. For students entering the College now the commons system is the norm. Because this is the only system they have known, they feel comfortable with it, and have even developed allegiances to their commons.

Francis Magee, associate dean of student affairs, said, "The commons is a way for the first years to be broken down into smaller groups. The commons helps them to identify with each other and where they live."

President McCardell said, "By all reports the various activities of the week went splendidly."

MCAB Presents...

Edgar Cruz
Internationally Acclaimed Classical Guitarist

Family Weekend One
Saturday, September 23
9pm in McCullough

Coming soon...
Craig Karges the Mentalist
Voted CollegeCampus Entertainer of the Year
Family Weekend Two
Friday, October 6
9pm McCullough

Bread Loaf bakes up 75th year

By Jeff Price
Arts Editor

There is something to be said for words, much of which was during the 75th annual Bread Loaf Writers' Conference.

The conference, which traditionally runs 10 or so days through a waning August, celebrated its conception this year with much writerly passion and witty banter.

There were daily readings that ranged from the weathered esteemed to the just now emerging and the ghost of one Robert Frost, whose presence permeated the nights like a rumor, the shadow of laughter on fire-lit faces (while this could not be independently verified, true writers in attendance would likely testify to the fact, whether novelist, poet or essayist).

The highly regarded conference receives applications from across the country. Entrance is based on the merit of one's submission.

This year, approximately 15 Middlebury students attended via slots offered by the school to the student body (positions usually held by students entering their summer prior to senior year, applications due in early April).

Days began early, or very, very late as the case might be for those who managed to elude slumber's oblivious embrace, with a breakfast served at 7:30 a.m.

Tables in the dining hall are waited on by those whose submissions earned them a full scholarship: the most exciting young talent at the conference serves everyone else chicken and water divvied out in an undersized glass (the meat of the day did vary and there was a vegetarian option and an admirably equipped salad bar).

From breakfast, those interested proceeded to the building known as the "Little Theater" for the daily 9 a.m. lecture. These topical musings as presented by members of the Bread loaf faculty (including poet Edward Hirsch and novelists Barry Lopez and Charles Baxter) touched on elegance in language, the game of careers (you never get what you expected to) and "bringing down the big house," among other things.

Voices, old and new, incarnated the printed page for a room full of quiet ears and lower backs waiting patiently against awkwardly angled wooden chairs.

Writing workshops followed, running two hours in length every other day, fiction writers occupying one morning, poets and nonfiction writers, the next.

On more pleasant days, trips to Lake Dunmore were a not infrequent way to the pass free time in the company of fellows.

Daily readings occupied both the 4:15 p.m. and 8:15 p.m. timeslots. Voices, old and new, incarnated the printed page for a room full of quiet ears and lower backs waiting patiently against awkwardly angled wooden chairs.

Special guests, such as poets Louise Glück and Bread Loaf mainstay William Meredith, elucidated the college classroom themes of mortality and passing time, Glück in wispy, schoolgirl lamentations, Meredith with chortled growl, seemingly protesting the droop in the one side of his stroke-laden face.

Listeners could be seen scattered outside the theater, some laying in the grass on the brighter afternoons.

Current Middlebury associate professor of English, Robert Cohen, read from his yet to be released novel, "Inspired Sleep," documenting with often hilarious, always contemplative prose the sudden-set hush of a woman's life aboard her personal all-American cruiseliner, a new prescription for sleeping pills at the helm (in storefronts this coming January).

(see Bread Loaf, page 19)

Andrew Corrigan

Eleanor , one of many Middlebury students to participate in the Bread Loaf writers conference relaxes in the long shadows of early evening.

The semester in arts worthy of celebration

By Jenna Sutton
Staff Writer

As the foliage changes from green to shades of gold and red, and the leaves begin to fall, the Middlebury campus will also be colored in the form of musical, dance, theatrical and visual performances from student productions to invited guests and alumni. And, of course, the Bicentennial Celebrations will continue in full force.

The musical program opens on Friday, Sept. 15, at 8 p.m. in Mead Chapel with a performance by the Trefoil ensemble "The Melodious Harp: Songs of Medieval France," sponsored by the College Chamber Singers and Brainerd Commons.

The ensemble, consisting of Maria Young (soprano, harps), Drew Minter (countertenor, harps) and Mark Rimple (countertenor, lute), will perform both vocal and instrumental pieces from 14th-century France. If you miss Trefoil, then you can catch them the following night at the Vermont Millennium Music Festival at Christ Church in Montpelier.

This will be followed by the first Bicentennial musical event on October 6 - the Emerson String Quartet which will perform in the Concert Hall in the CFA.

And for those who prefer something from home, October 9 heralds a flute performance of Native American music by Robert Mirabel. Theatre of Voices, a choral chamber group, will also perform in October.

The semester will culminate with a concert composed by alumnus Peter Hamlin and performed by the Middlebury College Choir, the Middlebury Community Chorus, the Harlem Spiritual Ensemble and organist Emory Fanning (Francois Clemmons and Jeffrey Rehbach conducting) on November 3.

Although this will be the last Bicentennial arts event, the music magic shall continue throughout J-term and spring semester.

The Theatre Department opened by greeting the new first-years with an evening of light humor and entertainment in the form of "Voices of 2004," a collage piece bringing together some thoughts and opinions of our newest class and punctuating them with a preview of what the coming semester might hold for them. The production, performed by six theatre majors, was enjoyed not only by the first-year students themselves, but also the upperclassmen that came along for the ride.

And in what better way could dramatists celebrate the Bicentennial than in paying tribute to The Bard? Shakespeare's "Hamlet" will run from October 26 to October 29 in Wright Theatre under the close supervision of director Doug Sprigg.

It will be followed shortly by the second departmental production of the fall semester running November 16-18: "Top Girls," written by British playwright Caryl Churchill and directed by Cheryl Faraone.

And for those who like to support student work, there will be many other plays shown around campus starting with "Tender," di-

(see Chestnut, page 20)

'Smog': steel web invites admiration, climbing

By Jeff Price
Arts Editor

"It's the first truly world class piece of art we've had here at Middlebury College," declares Professor of History of Art and Architecture John Hunisack. This bold statement is made in reference to Tony Smith's "Smog," on display now and forever aside Bicentennial Hall's absolute gaze.

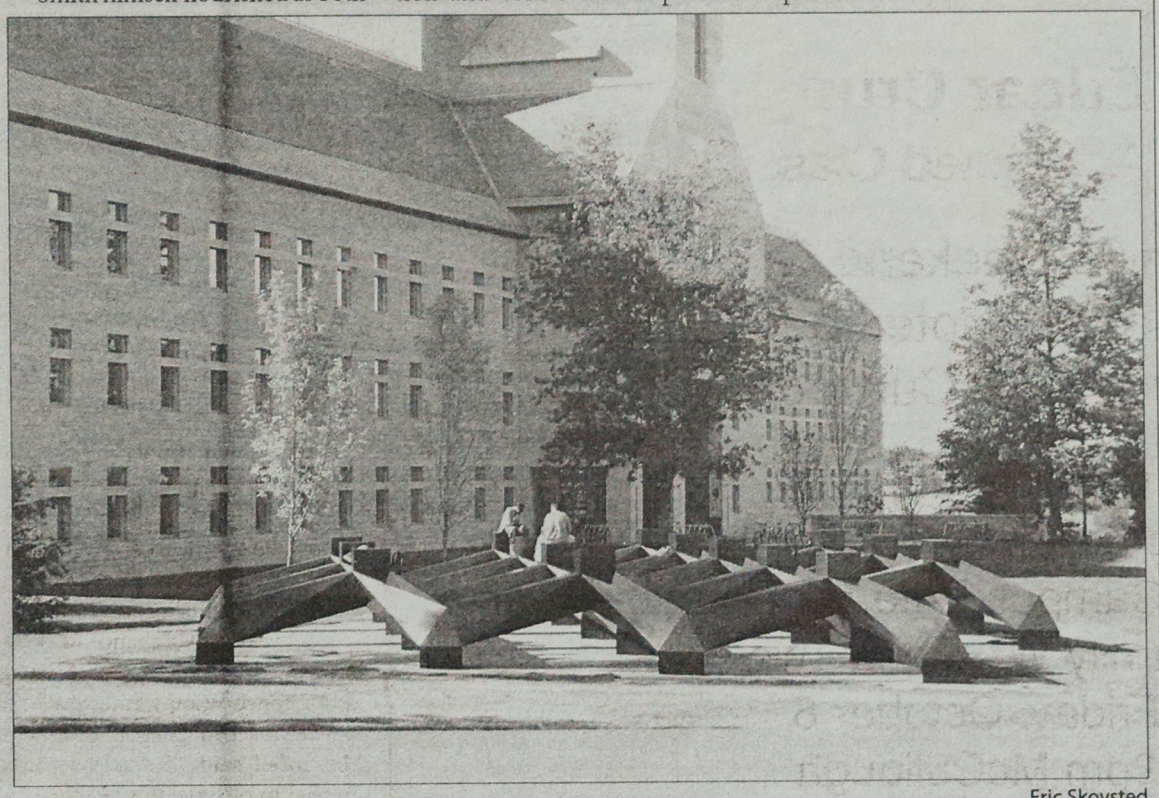
Solid, very much so, despite its name, "Smog" is a geometric web, constructed of black painted steel that rings hollow when knocked upon. Transported to the college by truck, the sculpture was put together from three ready-made parts, welded in accordance with Smith's 1962 design, a wooden model of which sat at one time in the artist's own backyard.

The "largest and most complex ever done" of Smith's works, "Smog," was handled by the Lippincott brothers at the Welding Works in Madison, Conn., before shipment to the college. The Lippincott brothers serviced almost each and every Smith design during the internationally famed artist's lifetime (he died in 1980).

For the sculpture's presence, we have the Commitee of Art for Public Places and Nancy Rosen to thank. The commitee elected Smith's works from among other options to fill the paved patio outside the new science center, whereas Rosen is the art consultant who negotiated the contract with Smith's estate.

Smith himself flourished as both minimalist sculptor and painter during the '50s and '60s, lucratizing a name that to this day sells.

"Smog," as a sculpture, reaches for "the maximum within the minimalist aesthetic," says Hunisack. An exhibition on the piece's aquisition and construction opens tomorrow in the Center For the Arts. An opening gala is scheduled for October 21, a Saturday afternoon at 2 p.m. Seen by students as "appropirately named" and "scary at night," "Smog" fits as yet another piece in the College's Bicentennial puzzle.



Eric Skovsted

Smog, Middlebury's first piece of world class art, gracefully sprawls across the front lawn of Bicentennial Hall.

Chavasse melds classical dance and the creative process

Courtesy Photo

Amy Chavasse, dance artist-in-residence, will be working with Middlebury students and faculty on technique and performance for three years.

By Elizabeth Logue
Arts Editor

A conventional dance studio might have mirrors on every wall, designed to keep dancers conscious of the progression of their technique. The pointing of the foot, the height of a dancer's extension, or the aesthetic appearance of a dance step often takes precedence over artistic expression in dance movement. Ballet dancers, in particular, lose much of their identity by conforming to how things are "supposed" to look.

But none of these stereotypes are present at Middlebury College, which has a dance department committed to keeping a balance of choreography, performance and technique.

And so Amy Chavasse joins the dance department as an artist-in-residence who will work closely with the faculty and students to promote this balance. "One of the reasons I chose Middlebury is because there is such a vested interest in the creative process, as opposed to the final product alone," said Chavasse, following a TH 260 class taught by Peter Schmitz, visiting professor in dance.

All the way from North Carolina, Ms. Chavasse brings a wealth of dance experience to Middlebury College. Having taught at the Arizona State University and University of North Carolina – Greensboro, she feels most comfortable in a teaching environment. "I love to teach," she says enthusiastically when asked about her reasons for wanting to remain in a college dance environment.

In addition to teaching, Chavasse continues to have a vested interest in her own dance company in North Carolina, and says that she plans on remaining active in her own choreographic work while at Middlebury.

When asked about her specific reasons for wanting to join Middlebury College's dance department, Chavasse eloquently talked about a sometimes complicated relationship between arts and academia, "unlike many schools which have not fully captured a healthy balance, Middlebury seems to have a group of creative and academically oriented students and faculty."

One of the reasons I chose Middlebury is because there is such a vested interest in the creative process, as opposed to just the product alone.
—Amy Chavasse, artist-in-residence

Chavasse also notes that there is a great emphasis on the actual process of choreography here at Middlebury, as opposed to just the production, performance, and technical aspect.

Certainly Middlebury dance is well known for its emphasis on the creative process. Faculty members Penny Campbell and Peter Schmitz have done extensive work on the art of improvisation and choreography. According to Ms. Chavasse, many dance programs lose sight of the actual process that goes into creating a piece of choreography.

One of the questions that resonates in the dance studio at the Center for the Arts: how is movement is developed and how are dancers able to become comfortable with choreography? In this type of environment, teachers and students work closely to get to know their own bodies, and in essence, get to know how and why they arrive at a choreographic conclusion, or a final performance.

Having caught a glimpse of Chavasse's dancing in Schmitz's TH 260 class, one might describe her as having a graceful loftiness, hardly making any noise as she glides across the floor. Her long, lean frame has the gracefulness of a ballet dancer, so it was no surprise to learn that she has studied ballet for many years.

But she sharply notes that she enjoys a ballet class only when the teacher is not occupied with the superficiality of technique. "There are so many wonderful technicians out there. We also need dancers to know what they, as dancers and artists, are creating."

Having competed with two other highly qualified candidates for the position of dance artist-in-residence, it is certain that Chavasse will bring a wealth of artistic knowledge to the dance department. Students are eager to work with her.

According to Schmitz, "she is really quite brilliant." Her interactions with the students and the faculty should help the Middlebury dance evolve even further as dancers delve into the world of creative process.

Brainerd summons 'Melodious Harp'

By Ben LaBolt
Staff Writer

One of the great professors at our college may have a day job as a political science professor, but many know Professor Paul Nelson as the great musical concert patron that he is.

Visiting the Middlebury campus this Friday, Sept. 15, at 8 p.m. in Mead Chapel is Trefoil, a three-person instrumental and vocal group specializing in the songs of fourteenth-century French music, this thanks to the efforts of Nelson.

Trefoil's performance, entitled "The Melodious Harp: Songs of Medieval France," includes a soprano and two countertenors, with an instrumental accompaniment, consisting of two harps and a lute. Having recently debuted in Philadelphia and New York, Trefoil has received favorable reviews.

Trefoil's performance, entitled "The Melodious Harp: Songs of Medieval France," includes a soprano and two countertenors, with an instrumental accompaniment that consists of two harps.

This academic year, Nelson helped orchestrate a grant for Brainerd Commons from the Kristen Johnson Fund for the Promotion of Arts at Middlebury, a name with which most Middlebury students are already familiar with, given the name of the student art building on campus.

Nelson, in his role as Brainerd Commons Associate, will be spearheading a unique concert series this school year.

Not only has Nelson attracted a popular set of world class musicians, he has also run a unique theme through the series, that of the new classical generation.

A prime example, Stephanie Houtzeel will be singing with the Bouts Ensemble, a Baroque group from Europe. Houtzeel graduated in '87 after studying Plato with Nelson. Following graduation, she moved to Boston and decided to try out voice lessons.

After only months of experience, she moved to New York to study at Julliard and there received the first prestigious Alice Tully Debut Recital Prize, shifting her life in a new, unexpected direction.

On Wednesday Oct. 25, at 7:30 p.m, Houtzeel will sing with the Bouts Ensemble in the Center For the Arts Concert Hall, displaying experience gained from her years with an opera company.

In addition, the Israeli pianist Alon Goldstein will perform on November 6.

Events are slated throughout the year, and students are encouraged to attend not only to hear these world-renowned musicians, but also to take advantage of our concert hall that has an international reputation for its acoustics.

With the commons system becoming more and more influential on this campus, it is good to see that the arts are being considered as an important part of commons unity.

Those not involved with Brainerd Commons are of course encouraged to attend the concert series. The series will allow all students to appreciate the music of other cultures and become more artistically aware.

See What's Happening

This Week in...

Visual Arts

Tony Smith's "Smog"
Opening 09/14- 12/10

Where: Center for the Arts, Middlebury College Museum of Art, Overbrook Gallery

What: Exhibit of sculptural models, preparatory drawings, and photographs related to Smog.

The Story of "Smog" and its Artist
Lecture 09/17

Where: Next to "Smog" sculpture outside Bicentennial Hall (Rain location: Bicentennial Hall, room 216)

What: John Hunisak, professor of art and architecture, lectures on the history of "Smog" and its artist, sculptor Tony Smith.

Middlebury College: 200 Years
Opening 09/14- 12/10

Where: Center for the Arts, Middlebury College Museum of Art, Upper Gallery

What: David Bain, author of "College on the Hill," and Museum director Richard Saunders collaborate prints, photographs, acrchitectural drawings and more from the College's archives and collections.

Music

Trefoil – "The Melodious Harp: Songs of Medieval France"
Performance 09/15

Where: Mead Chapel, 8pm

What: Vocal and instrumental trio using harps, lute, and voice in fourteenth century French music. A Brainerd Commons event.

Music and Singing on the McCullough Quad
Performance 09/17

Where: McCullough lawn, 1-4 p.m.

What: The Doughboys, a faculty music group, and other student performers will sing as part of the Bicentennial's Campus Discovery Day.

Francois Clemmons
Sing-along 09/17

Where: Center for the Arts, 1-4 p.m.

What: Francois Clemmons, artist-in-residence, will lead visitors in singing a collection of Negro spritiual songs.

Dance

Dance Company of Middlebury (DCM)
Informal showing 09/17

Where: CFA Dance Theatre, 1 p.m.-4 p.m.

What: The dancers in Dance Company of Middlebury give the audience a behind-the-scenes look at the creative process.

Concert introduces first-years to College a cappella tradition

By Sonali Desai
Staff Writer

A cappella on a Sunday night is like hot chocolate on a cold day: extremely satisfying! As 9 p.m. grew nearer, Mead Chapel grew noisier as Middlebury students old and new searched around for familiar faces and empty seats.

Suddenly a cheer arose from the audience and from my perch in the wings of the Chapel, I saw one of the co-ed groups on campus, the Mamajamas, run onto the stage. Amidst screams of "Go Diver Drew," their talented red haired, leopard print wearing Otter Nonsense player burst into song.

Her strong and beautiful voice resonated in the chapel and soon feet began to tap with the beats. Though the Mamajamas have performed rather infrequently in the past, they are working on some new material and will be stunning us all with their voices soon!

The group looked smaller on stage on Sunday night, missing some key members who have either graduated or gone abroad, nevertheless their repertoire was entertaining and the audience seemed to love every minute of it.

Following next on the a Cappella menu was the all female group, the Mischords. They walked onto stage dressed in their usual mix of black pants and colorful tops.

The Dissipated Eight, or the "D8," as they are better known were up next; the all-male group came rushing to the front from the back of the Chapel and almost crashed onto the stage.

They were decked up in ties and long sleeved shirts and no doubt had the ladies swooning, especially a couple of first-years in the front row who were treated to an up close and personal a cappella experience.

The D8 seem to be one of the most appreciated and widely listened to groups on campus and I overheard many whispers about the exceptional quality of their performances.

Last but not least, another co-ed group, the Bobolinks, got their chance to perform- however due to an unfortunate misunderstanding of sorts- the D8 forgetting to announce their arrival- Mead Chapel had started to empty out.

A few cheers and whistles from the remaining members of the crowd managed to get most of the audience back into their seats or at least back into Mead for the last bit of the performance.

The Bobolinks decided to introduce the first years to the Middlebury alma mater by ensuring we all got up and made actions while they sang the song. The audience tried their best to participate but I think we were all a bit confused.

Some said it was cheesy while others just grinned and tried their best to make a straight chapel and a windy road.

The Bobolinks seemed to be following in the tradition of singing to pretty girls in the first row causing one of my friends to remark that she was going to be up front at the next a cappella concert.

Sadly, not all of the a cappella groups on campus performed for the first-years on Sunday night.

Sauce, who I have heard is on sabbatical due to members studying abroad this year and PGR (People Get Ready), the campus' Christian a cappella group did not join in the festivities. The Mountain Ayres did not participate in this first of many a cappella concerts.

I guess the new students at Middlebury will just have to hold their breath and wait in anticipation for Sauce as we hum "the General" under our breath.

The first-years seemed to be impressed by their first a cappella concert of the term and are probably unaware of the joys that lie ahead of them- like late night, well rehearsed concerts in the various dorm lounges and let's not forget "a cappella at your door," a sampling of a few fine tunes.

Some a capella junkies may say that Sunday's performance was not up to the mark with a few notes here and there going astray.

What I saw, however, was a group of Middlebury students entertaining people to the best of their ability with a vibrant and positive outlook.

As the night before classes came to an end, there was an obvious sense of excitement.. The amusing "Voices of 2004," followed by an acoustically pleasing mixture of sopranos and altos, provided everyone with a sense of readiness to start classes.

And for the class of 2004, the talented a cappella groups may have reinforced their decision to come to Middlebury — a place where talent is at every corner.

Andrew Corrigan

During the annual back-to-school a cappella concert, the D8 treats a first-year student to a memorable evening. The Mischords, Bobolinks and Mamajamas also brought down the house as part of this Middlebury tradition.

Garcia gets lasting licks in 'The Pizza Tapes'

By Kate DeForest
Staff Writer

I can't say that I've ever been an avid Jerry Garcia fan. I can't even say what possessed me to buy "The Pizza Tapes," a 2000 release from Acoustic Disc, but I have to concede that it was one of the most surprising and satisfying music purchases I've made in quite a while.

Twenty tracks of a live session, including "appetizers," recorded in a basement by a couple of 40-somethings somehow produced an album rich in the tone and hue of American Appalachia, bluegrass, and jazz.

The mix of Garcia and Tim Rice on guitar, with David Grisman's crisp mandolin, created music that is at once traditional and comforting, but far from the conventionality the connotations of those words hold. Garcia, best known for his 30 years plus of service in The Grateful Dead, lost his battle with heroin, among other drugs, in 1995.

There is a genuine love for the music in the words sang and notes played that any music lover can appreciate, and any bluegrass, folk or jazz fan can relish.

The first song, preceded by an "appetizer" (a moment of recorded exchange that sets the tone for the rest of the album) is the traditional and very Appalachian "Man of Constant Sorrows." Perhaps not the most dynamic opening, it nevertheless serves as a kindly introduction, lulling the listener into passivity, only to be reawakened by the first of four improvisational pieces.

As wonderfully soothing as the traditional songs prove to be, the improvisation equally excites.

"Shady Jam," the first of such recordings, is a glossy web of guitar and mandolin, the latter instrument executed with a lightness that carries what might have otherwise been a heavy one-dimensional piece.

The jam leads into a traditional rendition of "Shady Grove," a track with which many Garcia fans may be familiar. This particular recording of the song has an urgency fuelled by the mandolin, beauty outlined by the strumming of the dual guitars, and authenticity given by the gentle roughness of Garcia's voice (who sings all lyrics on the album).

The Dylan standard "Knockin' on Heaven's Door," is slowed to a pace that would make a snail impatient and plods along without much grace.

Although interested in the blue grass and Appalachian folk, I found perhaps the most rewarding aspect of the album to be the fusion of the two with jazz influences.

To my great surprise I read the titles of Gershwin's "Summertime," and Miles Davis' "So Much" in the liner notes, and though I remained skeptical on how the trio would interpret such music, I was anxious to listen.

The songs, it turned out, had not only been executed well, but, in addition, the listener gains from the experience of being exposed to such renditions.

"So Much" goes in directions both unexpected and delightful, with a richness that goes far beyond two guitars and a mandolin. "Summertime" is a languid piece, meandering through the bars with much freedom and very little inhibition.

The Dylan standard "Knockin' on Heaven's Door," is slowed to a pace that would make a snail impatient and plods along without much grace. The only song on the album that doesn't translate well with Garcia's bluesy rasp, though one from which I had expected the most, "Knockin' on Heaven's Door" seems ready to be tucked into bed and kissed goodnight.

This rendition lacks the joy and honesty of the other tracks and seems out of place among the traditional tunes "Amazing Grace," "Little Sadie," "Long Black Veil," and others, whereas the jazz infused throughout the album seems perfectly at home with such songs.

On the whole the album was impressive on its own, not even considering its background as a mix stolen from Garcia's kitchen by a pizza boy (the name of the set stems from that episode). The song list has the familiarity of a grandmother's kitchen, the performers the well-deserved reputations of masters.

There is a genuine love for the music in the words sang and notes played that any music lover can appreciate, and any bluegrass, folk or jazz fan can relish.

Bread Loaf: corks pop on the mountainside

(continued from page 17)

"Anxiety," Cohen prefaced his reading, "I'm for it."

Tom Paine rendered the spiritual stoner's visit to the anarchist convention from his short story, "The Spoon Children," as collected in his first book, "Scar Vegas," to be released sometime soon in paperback.

"The Feast of Love," Charles Baxter's latest offering, traced in varying hues of blue the ups and many, many downs of the draw that seems to keep people at one another's side.

Other hot sales in the Bread Loaf bookstore spawned by inspired and inspiring readings included Joel Brouwer's book of poetry, "Exactly What Happened," Antonya Nelson's novel "Living To Tell" and Victor D. Lavalle's interwoven short story collection, "Slapboxing with Jesus."

Aside from the unceasing literary bombardment casually proffered by the conference, there was time to unwind, notably so at post-reading receptions, dances and this year only, a 75th anniversary toast, held under the abominable white spread of plastic tents that sprouted seemingly overnight beneath the Green Mountains. Editors, agents, publishers, the contracted and uncontracted alike dressed in their Sunday best, or a variation thereof. With a countdown at the stead of Conference Director Michael Collier to mark the synchronized popping of corks, Bread Loaf notched off a 75th year to the shouts of good cheer and general glee of attendees.

Somewhere out among the trees, Frost might have been heard, chopping wood, steadfastly assured of the answer to the question: Whose woods are these? (Middlebury Lecturer of English David Bain's history of the Bread Loaf Writers Conference, "Whose Woods These Are," is available in the College Store.)

'Voices' pokes good-natured fun at first-year students

Eric Skovsted

Middlebury theater students parodythe first-year experience during a series of skits in Mead Chapel.

By Alison Hertel
Features Editor

The night before classes began six theatre majors, Kirk German '00.5, Chris Timberlake '00, Laura Ye '00, Jen Driscoll '02, Tim Brownell '02 and Amy Formica '03 presented "Voices of the Class of 2004" directed by Cheryl Faraone, Associate Professor of Theatre, and Tim Brownell.

When the cast was chosen for this production an effort was made to break it up "by sex and by class, in order to get a wide range of kids," according to Brownell.

The cast arrived at Middlebury early in order to prepare for their performance.

Brownell said, "We focused a lot of time on it." Voices interspersed experts from actual college essays with skits about the first few weeks of college life.

Essays touched on many different topics including anorexia nervosa, a tragic football injury, pushing a man with Muscular Dystrophy through the Boston Marathon, visiting a cattle ranch, becoming a vegetarian, and growing up on the edge of the middle class.

The skits stressed the tendency of first-years to travel in large-groups of people before becoming comfortable venturing out alone. It also pokes fun at how first-years find their way around the campus while roaming in primitive packs.

Seriousness was mixed with good-natured jokes at the first-years' expense.

First-year student Kira Wozmak remarked, "I thought there was a really nice balance between what was funny and what was serious. I was surprised to hear what so many people have been through." Wozmak's opinion seems to be typical of most of those in attendance.

Advice touched on such topics as the socks lost to laundry gods, frostbite, the importance of flip-flops on the shower room floor, the subtle signicance of the drip trays given with a rental fridge and fans that blow both out and in.

Some of the skits included travelling to Proctor en masse, McCullough dance parties, dating your MOO leader and mail box combination locks. At the end of the performance each of the performers offered advice.

Their advice touched on such topics as the socks lost to the laundry gods, frostbite, the importance of flip-flops on shower room floor, the subtle significance of the drip tray given with a rental fridge and fans that blow both in and out.

An amusing, yet sometimes serious "Voices of 2004," presented just a handful of personalities in the first-year class. And the actors' lighthearted advice was at times practical, though I'm sure the Class of 2004 will learn the ropes on their own.

Chestnut, Ehrlich to appear at Midd

(continued from page 17)

rected by Chris Marshall '95 on October 19, 20 & 21 in the Hepburn Zoo.

Other student shows include: "Line" (Nov. 9, 10 & 11, Hepburn Zoo), "Art" (Nov. 16, 17, 18 & 19, Hepburn Zoo), "Veiled and Sleeping" (Nov. 30, Dec 1 & 2, Hepburn Zoo), "Knots" (Nov. 30, Dec. 1 & 2, Hepburn Zoo), "Private Dreams" (Nov. 30, Dec. 1 & 2, Seeler Studio Theatre) and "The Housewarming" (Dec. 7, 8 & 9, Hepburn Zoo).

And then, of course, there's the first-year play which will run in October. Auditions for budding actors of the Class of 2004 are on Thursday, Sept. 14, at 7:30 p.m. in Forest Basement.

As usual the Dance Department is planning a series of events, the first one being a behind-the-scenes look at the creative process performed by the Dance Company of Middlebury. The informal showing is open to the public and will start at 1 p.m. on Sept. 17.

The Pilobolus too dance company, a two member company derived from the world-famous Pilobolus dance company, will also be visiting Middlebury on Oct. 28 and 29 for evening performances.

Alumni Adam Battlestein '85 is a member of Pilobolus too, and will give a master class on Oct. 30 at 2:30 p.m during the TH 260 class. There will be announcements in the Dance Department regarding the specifics of his master class. *The Campus* will also have a preview and bio on Pilobolus as the event series nears

If you've been anywhere near Bicentennial Hall recently, you would have noticed a large black geometrical sculpture. This is "Smog", by Tony Smith (1912-1980). The Middlebury College Museum of Art is due to dedicate this sculpture on October 21 and will run a concurrent exhibition of the models, preparatory drawings and photographs of the sculpture.

A second exhibition "Middlebury College: 200 Years" will also be displayed this semester, and will feature a collaborative effort by David Bain, author of "College on the Hill,"and Richard Saunders, the Museum director.

The museum will continue its community program "Saturdays at the Museum" this semester that allows children between the ages of five and 12 under the supervision of accompanying adults to acquire an appreciation for art. The children get to take part in workshops related to current exhibitions at no charge.

The Hirschfield Film/Video Series, which brings both American and foreign films to the campus, will hold a discussion on Sept. 23 entitled "Cultures of Silent Film" when Middlebury faculty will show film excerpts and then lead the viewers into the mysteries of silent film.

"David Ehrlich: The Art of Film Animation" will be at the College on Oct. 7. David Ehrlich is an animator whose films and holograms have won multiple prizes and have been shown in museums and festivals around the world. The series itself shall continue to show films throughout the semester.

At 8 p.m. on Saturday, September 23, only a week from now, Cyrus Chestnut will roll back into town, top-notch piano skills and world class band in tow. Chestnut, all but a familiar face to those familiar with the jazz scene here at Middlebury (he has visited several times over the last five years), will be teaching a Winter Term course on the art form he so well champions. The concert is an annual highpoint for music in the CFA. Tickets are best reserved ahead of time. Call M-I-D-D. Soon.

And so, the Bicentennial year provides quite the delicessant selection of artistic delights. Whether a music, theater, dance, film or visual arts enthusiast, all students, faculty members and laypersons alike should profit from these possibilities.

Office Mandates:

Summer hits and misses

movies:

"The Perfect Storm": Swim Marky, swim.
"What Lies Beneath": Hey, that's where *I* live
"X-Men": Go Wolvie, go.
"The Tao of Steve": Best movie this summer.

tv:

"Survivor": Richard? It ain't fair!
"West Wing": It rules. It's about the president.
"Will & Grace": Hurray.
"Young Americans": Cheesy but fun.

books:

"Harry Potter and The Goblet of Fire": Cute.

music:

Britney Spears, "Oops, I did it again": Oops.
Phish, "Farmhouse": Whoooeee!
"Ibiza Annual" Mixed by Judge Jules and Tall Paul: Phat, yo.

Compiled by the editors of The Campus.

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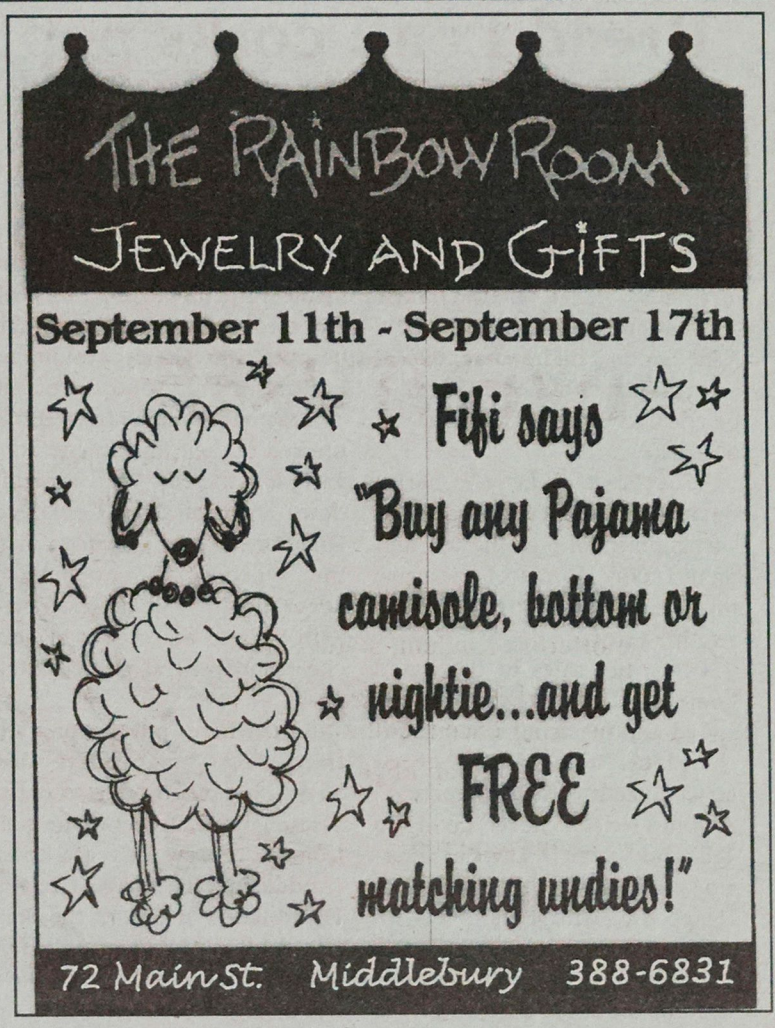
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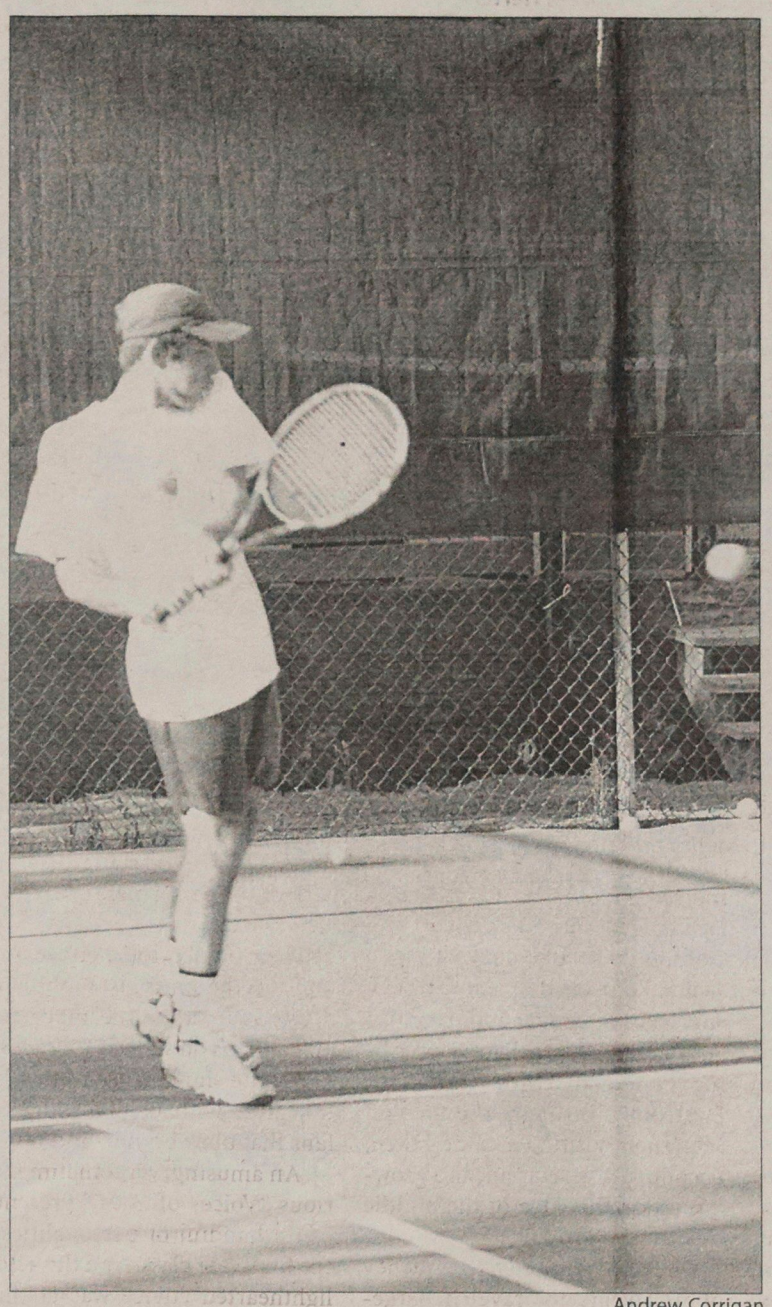
Former pro snowboarder buckles into spot as women's tennis coach



Andrew Corrigan

Rick Jamgochian '03 hits a backhand return during a practice match. Men's tennis hopes to have a strong showing during the short fall season.

By Katie Angelo
Staff Writer

From day one of preseason things have been different this fall for the Middlebury women's tennis team.

For starters, Gail Smith, former head coach of both the women and men's teams and assistant director of athletics, has decided to take a one-year leave of absence. Although coach Smith is absent, the dynamics of the team are stronger than ever.

Enter Nate Simms '92, a former member of the Middlebury men's tennis team. Simms has taken over the head coaching position. Coach Simms assisted both the women's and men's teams for the last two seasons, but has spent the majority of his time on the professional snowboarding circuit after graduating from Middlebury.

"He adds a new exciting perspective to the team and holds the psychological part of the game as one of the primary elements of tennis," says co-captain Kyle Wheale '02.

Assisting this year is Karen Johnson, originally from Kinnelon, N. J. and a former Division I tennis player at James Madison University in Virginia.

Johnson graduated from Rutgers University in New Jersey in 1994. She has spent the last eight summers coaching at Tournament Tough tennis camp in Florida and will be an integral part of the coaching staff for the women's team.

The new coaches are fortunate to have a plethora of talent with and for whom to work. There are eight returning players this fall: juniors Katie Angelo, Kimya Gharib, Hilary Johnson and Kyle Wheale and sophomores Linda Capewell, Amy Cluff, Whitney MacDonald and Ariella Neville. In addition the team welcomes four first-year students, Libby Meyers, Nina Popel, Jena Siegel and Sandy Spring.

"There is an extreme amount of depth on this team, which will provide a difficult time with the lineup, but will also allow for one of the strongest teams Middlebury has had in more than a few years," commented coach Simms.

Middlebury will have two matches this weekend in Maine, playing Colby on Friday, September 15 and Bates the following day.

Traditionally, the women open with these two teams every year. This year the team is hoping to come out strong as they have in the past. Their first home match is on Sept. 23.

Andrew Corrigan

Nate Simms brings enthusiasm to the women's tennis team as the new coach

Men's tennis has 'short but intense' fall

(continued from page 23)

fruitful relationship.

"He brings a focused intensity to our practices and a teachable knowledge of the game to the players," said Chris Jennings '03.

Sophomore Steve Hulce comments that the coach "demands and expects one hundred percent from every player without asking for it."

Although the team graduated two seniors and lost two out of the top six to Middlebury's academic programs abroad, a youthful core of focused sophomores is eager to continue the success the previous fall seasons have rendered.

The team hopes to improve upon its regional rank of eleventh and challenge Williams College for the top spot in the NESCAC.

Led by senior captain and sole upperclassman Matt Rymzo, the team hopes to improve upon its eastern regional ranking of 11 and challenge Williams College for the top spot in the NESCAC.

The men's team begins its short, but intense fall tournament season this weekend when it hosts the Middlebury Invitational beginning Saturday, Sept. 16.

Do sports statistics matter more to you than grades? Do you know the roster of any sports teams better than your own family tree? Then maybe you should cover sports for The Middlebury Campus. Your work will be published, so maybe your parents will see your name in the paper for something other than a court date! Any interested parties should contact Sports Editor Ben Dow at extension 3800 or e-mail bdow@middlebury.edu.

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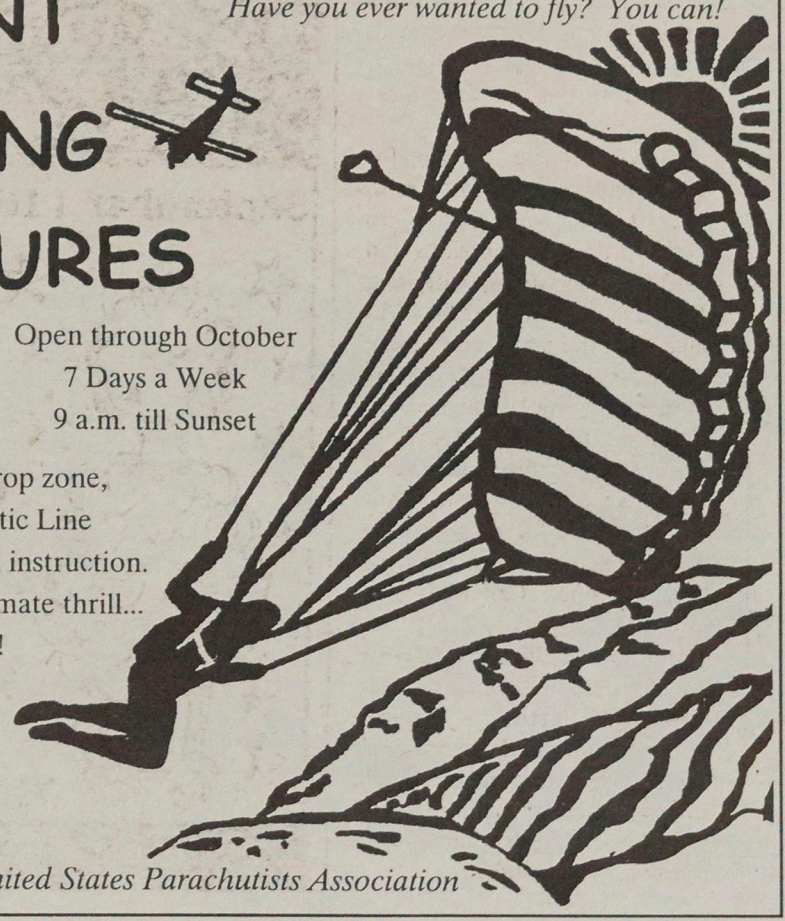

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New boats please crew

By Harmony Button
Staff Writer

The Middlebury Crew finished off a very promising preseason last Sunday by sharing boats and burgers with the University of Vermont rowers.

Men and women from both varsity teams combined to form four motley crews in eight person boats. Rowers competed in three races: a long distance lake survey, a sprint piece, and a 500 meter race won by the boat that took the fewest number of strokes to cross the finish.

The season looks promising for both the men and women's varsity teams. The women's team consists of 18 rowers and three coxwains.

These races were a good chance for rowers to apply the skills they had been working on during the previous week.

While boats filled with rowers of all shapes and sizes may have seemed pretty low key, such varied conditions made good technique more important than ever.

Team members' ability to compensate for unaccustomed conditions determined their success, rather than individuals' strength.

Following a long day on the water, teams enjoyed a barbecue at the boathouse on Lake Dunmore. It was a great chance to simulate a race situation and also to get to know the UVM team. UVM and Middlebury rowers developed a certain camaraderie, even though they will be racing against each other in a matter of weeks.

The Middlebury team arrived on campus last Tuesday, September 5th. After unpacking all the equipment from storage in the Middlebury fieldhouse and setting it all up at the boathouse at Lake Dunmore, rowers took their first strokes of the season on Thursday.

Preseason training consisted of two long sessions on the water that emphasized technique and rowing skill. While individual crew members can build aerobic conditioning over the summer, it takes a lot more than just strength to make a boat go fast.

Preseason was geared toward teaching team members how to row together, and to row well.

While there were sighs of relief heard at the orientation meeting when varsity coach Alex Machi announced the technique, rather than strength-related goals of preseason, after over six hours of water time, rowers were sore and tired enough.

As skills improved, practices combined drill work with slow distance and higher intensity pieces. The fall racing season takes place on courses six kilometers long, while the spring season races are two-kilometer sprints.

Preseason training consisted of two long sessions on the water that emphasized technique and rowing skill. While individual crew members can build aerobic conditioning over the summer, it takes a lot more than just strength to make a boat go fast.

The first race will be in Ottawa, Canada, in two weeks. Over the next two months, the team will travel to races everywhere from Rochester, New York to Boston, Massachusetts.

The season looks promising for both the men and women's varsity teams. The women's team consists of eighteen rowers and three coxswains.

The women hope to race well in both open and lightweight divisions.

The men's team looks to be very fast; however they are looking for one more man to fill a very competitive lightweight eight.

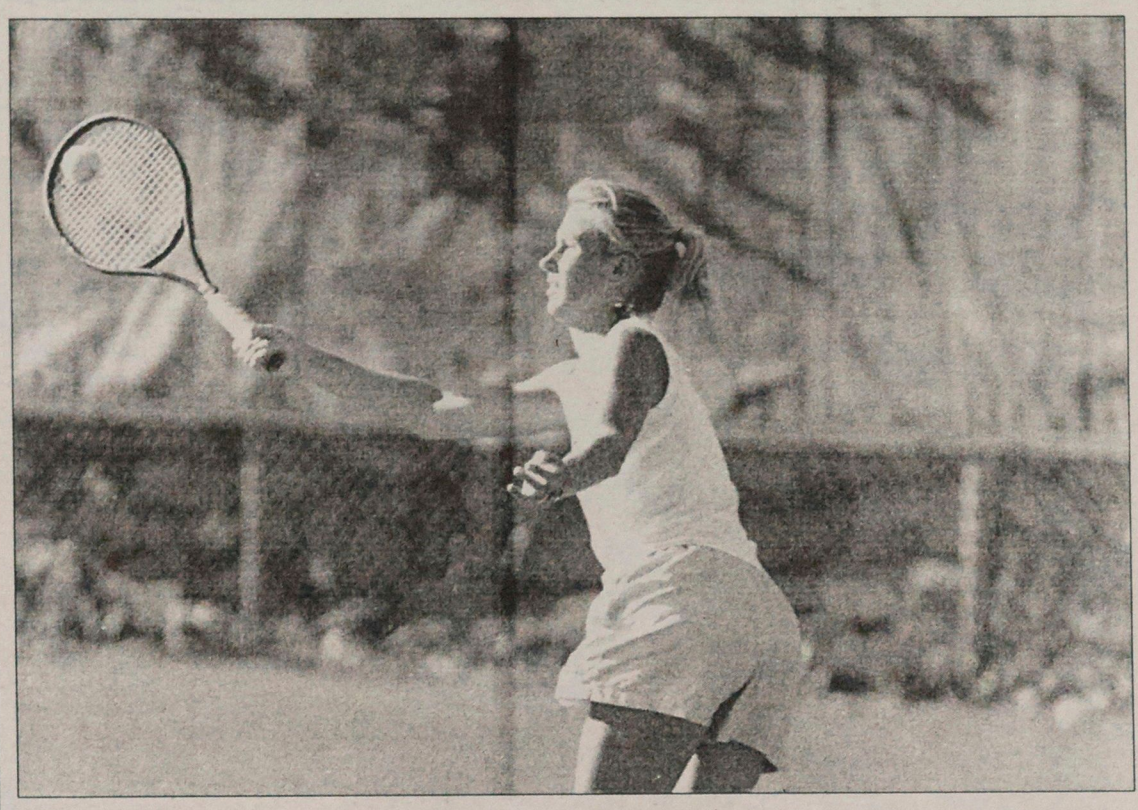
The men are also putting forth an open weight pair in one of four brand new boats. The purchase of new boats was made possible by extensive fundraising, college contribution, and generous donations from team parents.

The new boats — two eights and two pairs — were delivered last Friday. The purchase of new boats will allow the retirement of older novice boats. The new boats will continue to live at Camp Keewaydin as there is still no gleaming Middlebury College boathouse on the shore of Lake Dunmore.

There will be an orientation at Lake Dunmore this coming Saturday, September 16, for anyone who would like to join the novice crew team. Anyone interested should call the crew office at extension 3109 or look for informational signs up around campus.

The crew team is also selling t-shirts to fund the spring break training trip to Miami. Team members will be coming around to dorms and selling shirts in Proctor in the coming weeks. And as for the pre-dawn practices, whatever doesn't kill you makes you stronger.

Volley-ball



Andrew Corrigan

Moving quickly to her right with agility and precision, *Kyle Wheale '02 practices her volley technique during Wednesday's practice session on the courts outside of Proctor.*

Starting quarterback position assigned to Roberts

(continued from page 24)

Roberts will step up and get the job done. Roberts' understudies this year are two talented young quarterbacks: Mike Sipowicz '03 and Chris Brown '03.

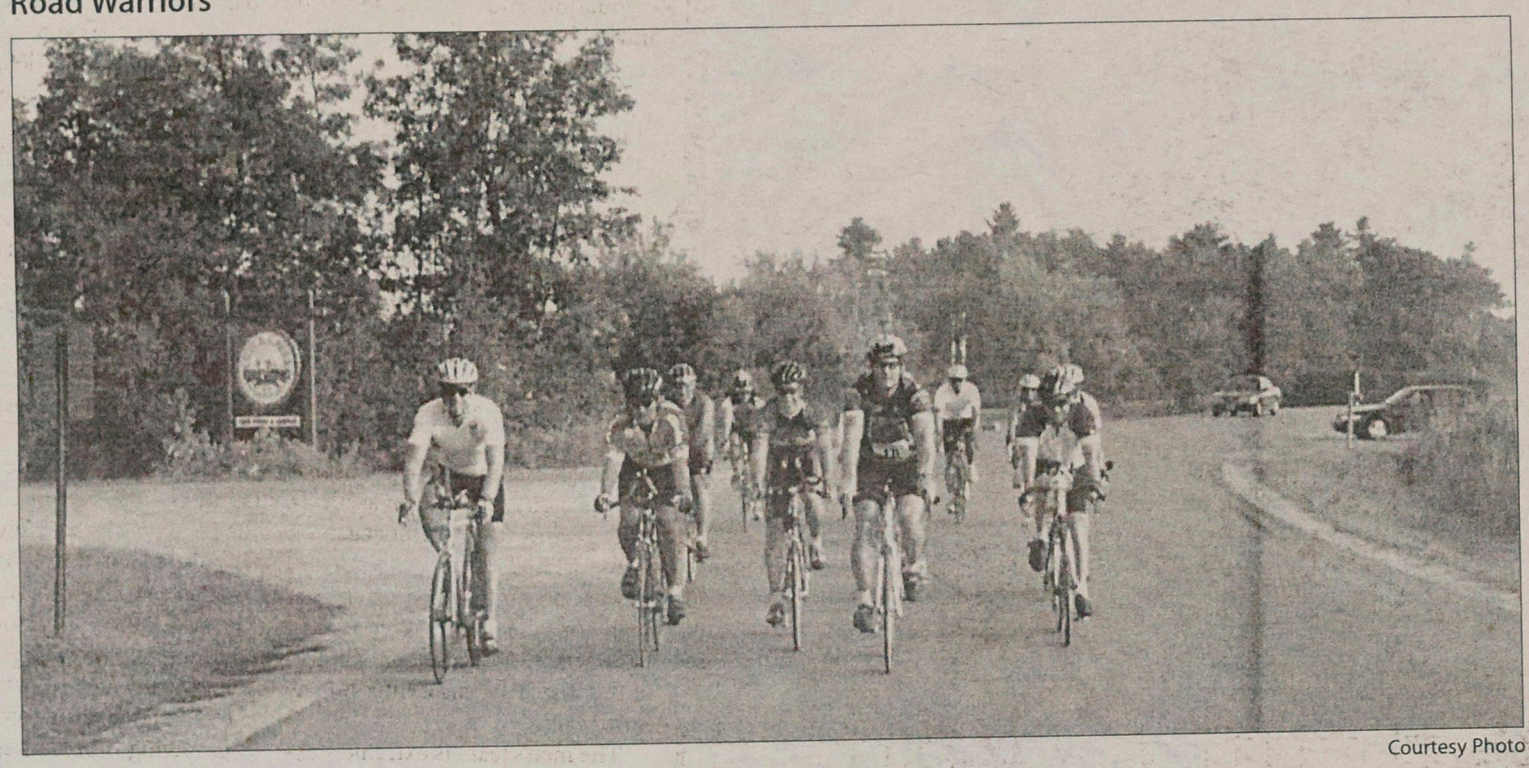
Among other key players for the Panthers this year is defensive back Von Craig '02, who was the team's second leading rusher and primary kick returner last year. The nimble Craig will devote most of his efforts to the defensive cause this season. On special teams, Denver Smith '03 has improved his punting and will look to once again be a league leader in that category. Andy Statires '03 will place kick for the Panthers in his first year of varsity duties.

Last year the Panthers often relied on late-minute heroics, cementing three of their six victories in the last five minutes, and despite their superb record, Heinecken said the team ranked in the middle of league in most statistical categories. With 14 returning starters, this squad is already game-tested and charged up and ready to outperform last year's feats.

While fans look toward the match-up at Williams on October 14, Heinecken says his team will take it one game at a time: "The league is very tight this year. There used to be some weak sisters, but that doesn't exist anymore. Any team can go out and beat another on any given day. We have to get better, and play at a higher level than we did last year in order to be successful."

Fall is here, folks, and so is Panther football. So stock your coolers, put on the face paint, and head on down to Alumni Stadium. This team is one you won't want to miss.

Road Warriors



Courtesy Photo

Nearing the end of the triathlon's last leg, *participants in the Earth Journey preserve every last possible ounce of energy to fuel themselves for the final push to the finish line and subsequent feeling of true accomplishment.*

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'Earth Journey': few tough enough for this trip

By Ben Dow
Sports Editor

It has been postulated by some that Vermont is the most rugged state in the union. Now, decisive evidence has been issued in Vermont's favor. This evidence is Middlebury's own Earth Journey Triathlon, which makes just about every other triathlon on the market look like a stroll down Old Chapel Road. This triathlon, staged by Vermont Sun Sports and Fitness on Exchange Street, is a grueling 327-mile test of the human will. This year's Earth Journey took place Sept. 8, 9 and 10.

The brainchild of Middlebury resident Steve Hare, the Earth Journey is not measured in hours but in days. The first day began on Lake Dunmore, with swimmers logging a five-mile swim and kayakers paddling a 13-mile course.

Upon exiting the lake, the competitors mounted their bicycles and took in a 95-mile bike ride up into the Green Mountains and back to Middlebury. Day two was all biking, 168 miles of it to be exact, including three 1,000-plus foot climbs. The route utilized lightly traveled back roads that climb onto the ridge above Middlebury. Racers went to the towns of Salisbury, Brandon and Lincoln among others, according to triathlon director Hare. Day three, arguably the hottest and most humid day of the event, held in store the 51.25-mile run. The course climbed to the 1,800-foot Bristol Gap, then back to the valley and Middlebury.

Courtesy Photo

Earth Journey competitors possess a rare intensity far beyond that of the normal triathlon participant.

Day three, arguably the hottest and most humid day of the event, held in store the 51.25-mile run. The course climbed to the 1,800-foot Bristol Gap, then back to the valley.

Eighteen competitors from around the country took place in this year's event. Steve Hare, for all his effort in co-organizing the race, went out and won in an overall time of 25 hours: one minute:11 seconds. The female champion was Anne Snoeyenbos of New York, N.Y., with a time of 43:21:53. Considering most people would have passed out from exaustion while swimming Lake Dunmore, just finishing the race alive commands the deepest respect. Three competitors were unable to finish the race.

Hare, who is now a five-time champion of the Earth Journey, said after the race, "When you finish this event you feel incredible relief, but an unparalleled sense of accomplishment." Hare finished fourth in the kayak and came from behind to win the cycling portion of the first day. He led early on day two, dropped to third and then reclaimed the lead to stay undefeated. Joe Carrara pulled away from Hare around mile 30 and took that portion of the race, preventing Hare's sweep.

When you finish this event you feel an incredible relief, but an unparalleled sense of accomplishment.
—Steve Hare, triathlon champion

New Yorker Snoeyenbos, who like many New York transplants to Middlebury College loved Vermont's beauty, waxed poetic that, "This course is so beautiful. I've decided to ride on courses that aren't in urban areas and this area is the best I've ever seen."

Vermont Sun produced eight triathlons in the area this summer: a series of seven and the Earth Journey.

Hare and his wife founded Vermont Sun after moving to Middlebury in 1986. The planners of the Earth Journey expect the race to continue once every four years during Olympic years.

Men's tennis playing for a new coach and a Rolex

By Matt Rymzo
Assistant Sports Editor

The Middlebury men's tennis team looks poised to improve upon a sixth place finish in the NESCAC last year and send, for the third fall season in a row, two players to the Rolex National Intercollegiate Tennis Championships in Memphis, Tennessee come October.

With the acquisition of a new coach in the off season and six out of the top eight players returning, there is an excitement and energy surrounding the team seldom before seen.

Longtime men's and women's tennis coach and assistant athletics director, Gail Smith, has taken a leave of absence for a year to pursue her Ph.D. in higher education at the University of Vermont.

David Schwartz, former assistant coach at Cornell University, has been named the new men's tennis coach at Middlebury.

Schwartz graduated from Cornell University in 1989, where he played varsity tennis for four years.

Not unlike many Middlebury students today, Schwartz decided to give Wall Street a shot after graduation and worked for two and half years as a retail stock broker for Lehman Brothers in New York City.

In 1992, Schwartz decided to return to school and received his M.A. in History from SUNY-Cortland in New York two years later.

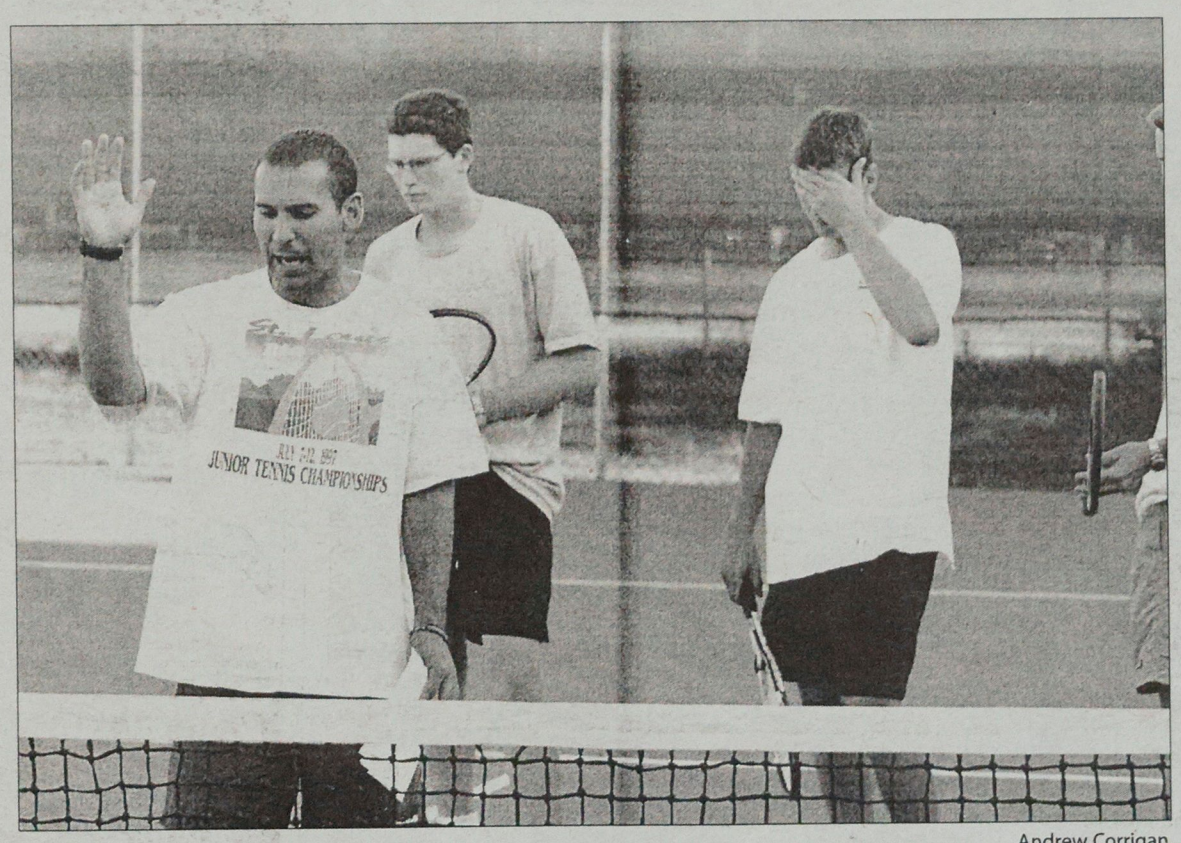
With the desire to return to his hometown, Schwartz returned to Ithaca, N.Y. in 1994 and taught a dropout prevention program dealing with adolescents who displayed violent, aggressive behavior.

While teaching, he began assisting the men's tennis team at Ithaca College and soon began coaching full time at Cornell.

In addition to coaching at Cornell for the past three years, Schwartz was the director of tennis at the Ithaca Tennis Center for the past year.

The men's team is extremely excited to have Schwartz and look forward to a longstanding and

(see Men's tennis, page 21)



Andrew Corrigan

New men's tennis coach David Schwartz leads his team through some new drills during Wednesday's practice.

A Knight Topples

By Ben Dow
Sports Editor

The sports enigma known as Bobby Knight was ejected from his position as head coach of the Indiana University men's basketball team last week. Knight, who had held the job for 29 years, is the only coach to win an NCAA championship, an NIT championship and gold medals at both the Olympic and Pan-American games.

He was the youngest coach ever to win 600 collegiate games. But he was also suspended three times for outright boorish behavior: once for throwing a chair onto the court in 1985, again for shoving his son Pat, a player at the time, in 1993, and finally for poor conduct last season. Many people see Bobby Knight as a sort of evil genius — as a man whose passion for the game sometimes crosses the line into pure rage. But when a four-time coach of the year is also the universal symbol of naked aggression, the higher-ups must weigh the assets and liabilities of such a man. So Indiana University fired him.

But the fact of the matter remains that he lost his throne at the powerhouse he built, ultimately because of his temper.

This comes at a time when more and more pressure is being added to the boiler of amateur sports. Nowadays, millions of teens are competing for only a few thousand college roster openings and even fewer professional bids. This has whirled parents and coaches alike into a frenzy where the only goal is success. Coaches like Bobby Knight can be found as far down as little league. Brawls between parents, coaches and officials are becoming commonplace. As illustrated by Knight's longevity despite his renowned reputation, success is what dictates how long an obnoxious coach can maintain the helm. Is that a good thing?

Would we at Middlebury think so highly of our athletic program if our coaches abused reporters or players? This college has enjoyed widespread success without having to put up with embarrassing coaches or players. But this is not, for example, Big 10 men's basketball either. The stakes at that level — million-dollar apparel and television contracts — demand performance in a high-profile environment.

The need for success allows guys like Knight to hang around if they keep winning. Don't institutions like Indiana know that there are other ways of making money? They could improve their academic reputation, and better students, by building new science centers or commons or giving every graduate a nifty walking stick.

The main motivation for every sport is to have fun. Competing under a coach like Knight would, for me at least, take most if not all of the fun out of sports. The same would hold true for an overbearing parent who was trying to live vicariously through or get a free Ivy-League education for his child. Competing is best when done for the love of the sport, not the bellowing third parties beyond the sidelines.

Men's Sports	
Cross Country	September 16
Golf	September 16
Tennis	September 16

The Campus Sports

Women's Sports	
Field Hockey	September 16
Volleyball	September 21
Soccer	September 16

Football kickoff anticipated with hopes of NESCAC domination

By Eric Bundonis
Staff Writer

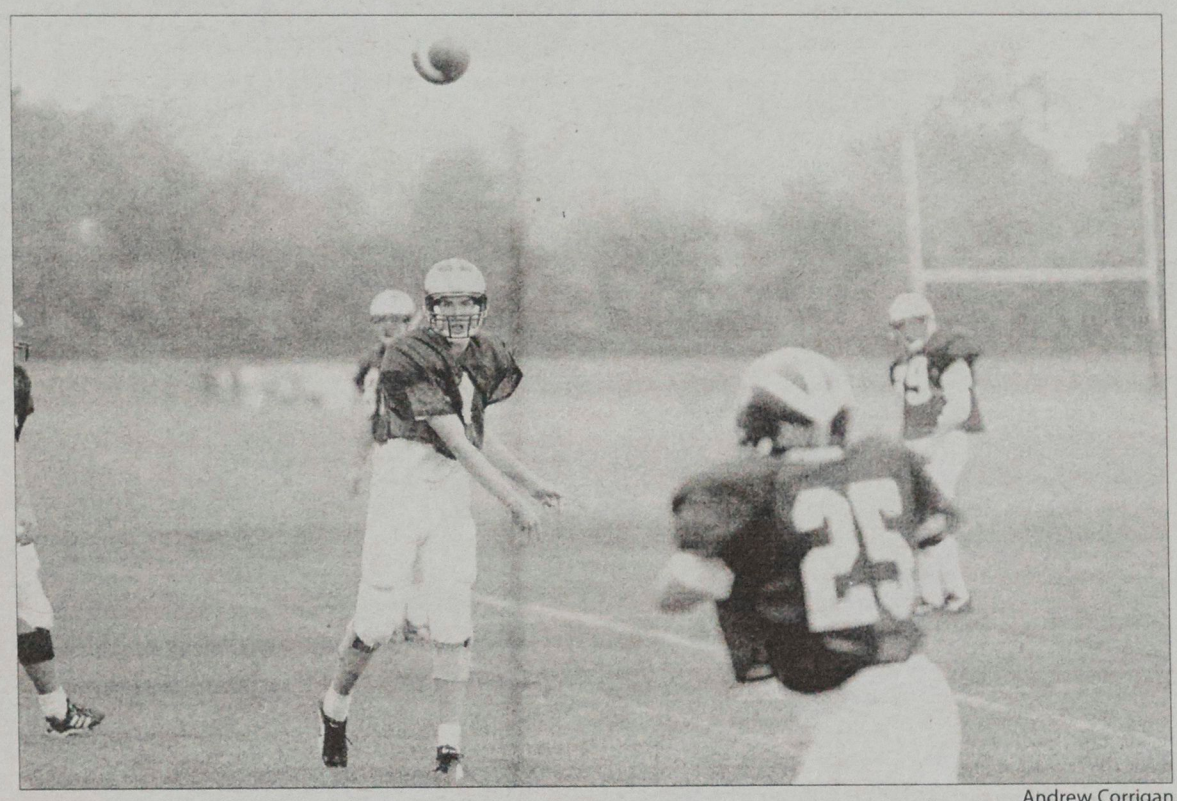
As the men's football team hits the gridiron this fall, the players, coaches and Middlebury fans alike certainly have a lot to be optimistic about. The 2000 squad boasts veteran experience on both sides of the ball, returning 14 starters from last year's 6-2 team that finished second in the NESCAC. If the vets can exploit their experience from last year's successes, and the newcomers quickly blend in, the first Panther team of the new millennium could be a very successful one.

Steele, the conference player of the year and first team All-ECAC selection last year, had nearly two times more tackles then any other Panther.

On the offensive end, the Panthers return running back Bryan Sanchez '01, their most potent offensive weapon from a year ago. Sanchez, the NESCAC's leading rusher last year, gained 1,244 all-purpose yards, 950 of them on the ground, and scored 9 touchdowns, more than 40 percent of the team's total. With his blazing speed and bruising power, Sanchez is surely one of the premier backs in the Northeast and will look to have another outstanding year. The other primary offensive targets are wide receiver Devon O' Neil '01, who brings his 25 catches for 336 yards and four touchdowns back to the field, and captain tight end Zac Campbell '01, who caught 25 passes for 262 yards and three touchdowns last year. These three seniors will continue to provide the bulk of the offense for the Panthers. The superb offensive line from a year ago returns five starters, which could prove invaluable for the fortunes of the running and passing game.

A big question for the Panthers is how they will fill the shoes of quarterback John Wenner, who threw for 1,467 yards and 12 touchdowns last year.

Defensively, the Panthers return three of their best in captain linebacker Andy Steele '01, defensive back Tab Howard '01 and defensive lineman Paul Shull '01. Steele, the conference player of the year and first team All-ECAC selection last year, had nearly two times more tackles than any other Panther, amassing 90 of them for an amazing 11.25 tackles per game. Howard had 48 tackles and a team-best three interceptions, and the speedy senior will lead the secondary this year. The defensive predator Shull brings back his school-record eight sacks from last season and will continue to stifle quarterbacks on a game-by-game basis. Ross Faith '01 (38 tackles) and E.J. Cooper '01 (25 tackles, four sacks) are two other accomplished veterans whose presence is vital to defensive success.



Andrew Corrigan

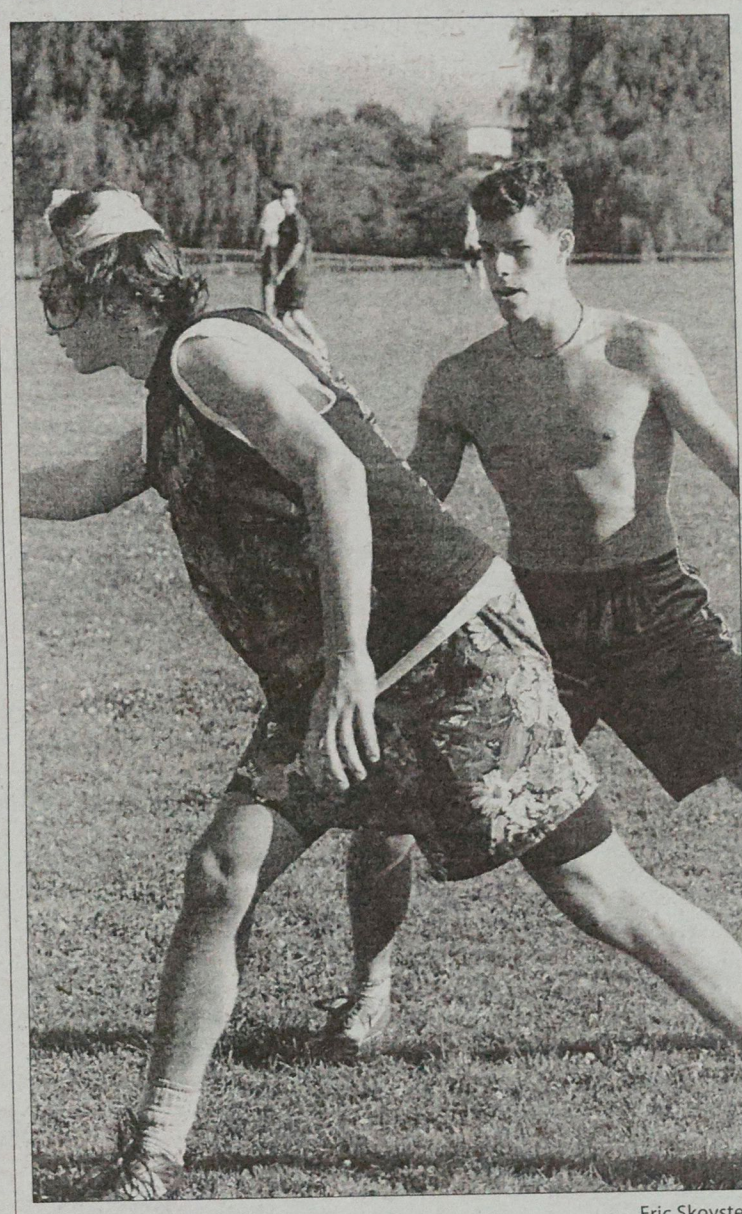
With 14 starters returning to the team, the Panthers hope to capitalize on experience for the 2000 football season.

A big question for the Panthers is how they will fill the shoes of quarterback John Wenner, who threw for 1,467 yards and 12 touchdowns last year. Scott Roberts '02 will take the reins of the offense in his first year as a starter. Roberts is poised and ready for a great year with multiple offensive options in Sanchez, O' Neil, Campbell and fullback Chris Davis '03. Davis was the only first-year starter last season. Head coach Mickey Heinecken was quick to point out that last year was Wenner's first as a starter, and he is confident that

On the offensive end, the Panthers return running back Bryan Sanchez '01, their most potent offensive weapon from a year ago.

(see Starting, page 22)

Shall we dance?



Eric Skovsted

In preparation for the upcoming ultimate frisbee season, *Keegan Uhl '01 and Ed Van Bibber-Orr '01 demonstrate correct defensive positioning.*

Women's soccer breaks Camels' backs

By Andrew Zimmerman
Staff Writer

The Middlebury women's soccer team enters the 2000 season looking to repeat or improve upon the ECAC tournament appearances they've had the last two years.

Women's soccer

Saturday, September 9

Middlebury College	3
Connecticut College	0

With preseason now over the team can focus on an always-tough NESCAC schedule and two months of intense play.

The returning group of varsity players will play an essential roll in the success of this year's team. Having lost two captains, among them midfield stalwart Gwenie Rogers, coach Diane Boettcher will look to fill the midfield gap with juniors Haley Holmer and Caitlin Ryan.

Having lost two captains, among them midfield stalwart Gwenie Rogers, coach Diane Boettcher will look to fill the midfield gap with juniors Haley Holmer and Caitlin Ryan.

Senior captains Molly Holmberg, Amanda Fiedler and Kendra Slater will be the on-field and locker room leaders as captains this year.

Says coach Boettcher of this year's squad, "We are a veteran team with many experienced players."

Also returning is All-American standout Ellie Wendell '02, and All-New England players Ali Connolly '02 and Meg Bonney '03.

Because the Panthers are laden with such upperclassman talent, breaking in as a first-year was particularly tough this year. There are, however, a few new faces to look for come the season home opener this Saturday against Tufts.

Michaela Dietz has garnered a spot on the team as a first-year because of her quick style of play and incredible pace.

Look for her to fill in complementing the steady play of the veteran midfield. Jessica Larson will also find a place on the team as back up goalkeeper to Connolly. While she will not compete for the starting job, she will no doubt learn much from Ali in net.

The Panthers compete in the NESCAC, which is one of the most competitive conferences in all of Division III soccer. Entering this year, the team is ranked sixth in New England. This season the squad will face three other top 10 teams. The test starts this Saturday with the ninth ranked team in New England, Tufts.

Other games of note occur Sept. 23 against Bowdoin, the forth-ranked team and October 3 against top-ranked rival Williams College.

Having beat Williams last year, Coach Boettcher looks to the Bowdoin game to be just as stern a matchup as that with Williams. While all games are of the utmost importance during the course of a short one-game season, the Panthers will also play ranked opponents Bates and Keene State.

The expectations for this year's team at this point in the season remain just those — expectations. It is far too early to make any predictions about the 2000 team.

Coach Boettcher remains guarded when asked about what she expects results-wise from her team. She says, "Myself and the team as a whole take one game at a time. It is a team policy of sorts."

And so this year's team will approach each game individually and with the same intensity.

That philosophy and a bounty of experience and leadership should hold the Middlebury women's soccer team in good stead as they begin the 2000 season.

The formula seems to be working as the Panthers won last Saturday against Connecticut College, 3-0. Captain Amanda Fiedler led the way with a goal in the team's first game and first victory of the season.